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HALIFAX • WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 15 2008

metronews



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for  
theft

## Charges dropped in Kandahar shooting

**MILITARY** A soldier from Cornwall, P.E.I. has had charges against him dropped in the August 2006 death of his friend and comrade in Afghanistan.

Master Cpl. Robbie Fraser was charged after a soldier's gun discharged in a military vehicle near Kandahar, killing Master Cpl. Jeffrey Walsh.

Fraser was to face court martial yesterday, but the military dropped the manslaughter and negligent performance of duty charges right away, citing a report that cast reasonable doubt on whether Fraser fired the shot. **METRO HALIFAX**

### Election 2008 pg 8-9

- More House drama on the horizon, experts say
- NDP continues to build
- Dion played catch-up in election race
- Tories take the West
- Bloc halts Harper in QC

### Central Nova pg 8



**May vows to stay Green despite loss**

### Local pg 6



**Prison guards picket jail after firing**

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# Minority, take two



Conservative Leader and Prime Minister Stephen Harper casts his ballot in Calgary yesterday as his wife Laureen and daughter Rachel look on.

Harper wins, but again falls short of majority

Canadians have chosen "slow and steady," giving Prime Minister Stephen Harper and his Conservatives a tighter hold on minority government as the country braces for a possible economic downturn.

Harper was able to make vital gains in Ontario, including big victories in the 905 region, but missteps in Quebec kept his long-sought majority out of reach and leaves him facing a divided Parliament.

The night proved a bitter disappointment for Liberal Leader Stéphane

Dion, 53, who failed to sell voters on his leadership or his controversial carbon tax and now faces an almost certain challenge to his leadership.

Liberals lost seats across Atlantic Canada and in the one-time stronghold of Ontario, where they gave up seats to the Tories.

Dion, in his first campaign as a party leader, said he wouldn't quit if Liberals lost the election. But

### Election 2008

last night's result, the worst showing for the party in at least 20 years, makes it doubtful the Liberals are willing to give Dion a second chance.

Liberals Bob Rae and Michael Ignatieff — Dion's

rivals for the party leadership — both won their Toronto seats last night, keeping leadership speculation alive.

NDP Leader Jack Layton, 58, improved his party's standings, winning a seat in

Newfoundland and sweeping northern Ontario. While Layton had campaigned to be Prime Minister, aspired to replace the Liberals as official opposition, and lost on both counts, the NDP has gained a stronger voice in Parliament. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

### Seat count

**144** Conservative  
**74** Liberal  
**50** Bloc Québécois  
**37** NDP  
**3** Other

Counts as of 11:15 p.m. EDT

For complete election coverage from across the country go to [metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

# N.S. voters re-elect familiar faces

**LINDSAY JONES**  
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More of the same.

That's essentially what Nova Scotians opted for in last night's election. The Tories gained one seat in West Nova, making up for a loss to ex-Tory Bill Casey in Cumberland-Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley.

Liberal incumbent Robert Thibault, who apologized twice for ageist and

sexist remarks at the beginning of the campaign, lost to Tory Greg Kerr.

Independent Bill Casey — who was elected as a Conservative in 2006, but was tossed out of caucus for voting against the budget — won by a landslide in his riding of Cumberland-Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley.

Early on, Green leader Elizabeth May lost her battle to oust Peter MacKay from his Central Nova seat,

which he's held since 1997.

In Halifax, NDP candidate Megan Leslie nabbed the seat which many thought was hers to win. Former NDP MP Alexa McDonough previously held the seat for 11 years.

Sackville-Eastern Shore incumbent Peter Stoffer also won back his seat.

While the Liberals lost a seat, they remained strong in their traditional ridings. Liberal incumbent Scott

### 2006 results

**6** Liberal  
**3** Conservative  
**2** NDP  
**0** Independent

Brison took back the Kings-Hants seat for the fifth consecutive election.

Geoff Regan won back

### 2008 results

**5** Liberal  
**3** Conservative  
**2** NDP  
**1** Independent

his in Halifax West and Mike Savage held onto his Dartmouth-Cole Harbour seat.



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**N.S. Power wins workplace award**

Nova Scotia Power has received a healthy workplace award. The company provides workers with gym discounts, pedometers, dieticians, and other health services. **METRO HALIFAX**

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# Local



## Energy-sucking appliances frozen out

Appliances sold in the province will have to meet new standards for energy efficiency. The changes to electric ranges, washers and dryers, fridges, air conditioners and lights, were made effective Oct. 1. Wood-burning stoves were also included in the standards update.

METRO HALIFAX

## Key riding results

### Halifax

- 20.6% — Ted Larsen (Conservative)
- 42.8% — Megan Leslie (NDP)
- 27.6% — Catherine Meade (Liberal)
- 0.4% — Tony Seed (Marxist-Leninist Party of Canada)
- 8.6% — Darryl Whetter (Green)

### Halifax West

- 0.6% — Trevor Ennis (Christian Heritage Party of Canada)
- 21.2% — Rakesh Khosla (Conservative)
- 29.6% — Tamara Lorincz (NDP)
- 7.1% — Michael Munday (Green)
- 41.5% — Geoff Regan (Liberal)

### Dartmouth-Cole Harbour

- 0.5% — George Campbell (Christian Heritage)
- 31.5% — Brad Pye (NDP)
- 39.5% — Mike Savage (Liberal)
- 6.0% — Paul Shreenan (Green)
- 22.5% — Wanda Webber (Conservative)

### Sackville-Eastern Shore

- 5.1% — Noreen Hartlen (Green)
- 20.6% — David Montgomery (Conservative)
- 12.8% — Carolyn Scott (Liberal)
- 61.5% — Peter Stoffer (NDP)

### Central Nova

- 0.5% — Paul Kemp (Canadian Action Party)
- 19.6% — Louise Lorefice (NDP)
- 1.1% — Michael Harris MacKay (Christian Heritage)
- 46.6% — Peter MacKay (Conservative)
- 32.2% — Elizabeth May (Green)

### West Nova

- 16.9% — George Barron (NDP)
- 39.9% — Greg Kerr (Conservative)
- 5.0% — Ronald Mills (Green)
- 2.0% — Cindy M. Nesbitt (Independent)
- 36.1% — Robert Thibault (Liberal)

### Cumberland-Colchester

- 8.8% — Joel E. Bernard (Conservative)
- 69.0% — Bill Casey (Independent)
- 12.3% — Karen Olsson (NDP)
- 8.5% — Tracy Parsons (Liberal)
- 1.4% — Rick Simpson (Independent)

### South Shore-St. Margarets

- 33.7% — Gordon S. Earle (NDP)
- 36.1% — Gerald Keddy (Conservative)
- 1.3% — Joe Larkin (Christian Heritage)
- 5.2% — Michael Oddy (Green)
- 23.7% — Bill Smith (Liberal)

Check out metronews.ca for full election coverage and results.



Marion Waldron, a third-year NSCAD student, and Dalhousie student Adam Reid watch the election results roll in at the Grawood last night. Students dyed their beer to support their favourite political party.

## Students soak up election results

### Voters, party-tinted beers fill campus bar

SYLVIA COLE  
for Metro Halifax

**Students and locals sipped red, blue, orange and green beer at Dalhousie University last night while they watched the results of the election unfold.**

"Elections are really exciting. What's better than watching the elections and having a couple of drinks?" asked Adam Reid, a third-year history student who nabbed a prime leather couch in front of a large screen TV at the Grawood campus bar.

Reid's friend Marion Waldron-Blain, a third-year student at NSCAD

University, said she'd like to see either the NDP or the Liberals win.

"I go to art school and the Conservatives aren't very pro-arts at all. I would like to have a job sometime in my life, so that's most of my reason," she said.

Reid said he'd like to see more help offered to students paying back student loans, and to making school more affordable.

Not everyone was against the Conservatives. Kevin Forbes, a non-student watching the elections at the Grawood, argued the Conservatives have done a pretty good job in the last two years they've been in power.

**"I sent all the candidates an e-mail with a few questions and only one bothered to answer it, so I voted for that guy."**

Kevin Forbes

That said, Forbes didn't necessarily vote Conservative.

"I sent all candidates an e-mail with a few questions and only one bothered to answer it, so I voted for that guy, 'cause it said a lot about him and the campaign he wanted to run."

## Stoffer wins 5th term in Sackville

ELIZABETH MCMILLAN  
for Metro Halifax

**NDP** Eleven years ago, Peter Stoffer won his first election by 41 votes.

Yesterday's results sent him back to Ottawa with a much more comfortable margin.

"I was on the edge of my seat. It was a nail-biter. I fully expected to lose,"

Stoffer said of the 1997 election. This time, he said, he was confident throughout the campaign.

Stoffer said he expected a Conservative minority, but was hopeful the NDP would pick up more seats.

Stoffer celebrated in Lower Sackville before greeting supporters in Eastern Passage and Halifax.

This is his fifth term in

the House of Commons.

Conservative candidate David Montgomery said he was pleased with the campaign.

"We fought an uphill battle," he said.

The defeat may be overshadowed by another big day. Montgomery's wife, Jennifer, is pregnant with their third child, and was having contractions Tuesday night.

[www.peterkelly.ca](http://www.peterkelly.ca)



## NDP holds on to Halifax seat

PAUL MCLEOD  
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**LESLIE** It's no longer Alexa's seat, but it still belongs to the NDP.

Legal aid worker Megan Leslie fended off the competition to convincingly win the riding of Halifax yesterday.

"I ran a nomination campaign before this so it's been about 2-1/2 months of campaigning for me," said Leslie. "It's a lot of work but it feels fantastic to be able to say 'we did it.'"

With over 40 per cent of the vote, Leslie had enough support to easily place above the second-place finisher, Liberal Catherine Meade. Conservative Ted Larsen finished third, followed by the Green party's Darryl Whetter and the Marxist-Leninist Party's Tony Seed respectively.

A cheering crowd welcomed Leslie at the Lord Nelson hotel after her win.

"I want to thank all the people that I have met during this campaign and tell you I feel a profound sense of responsibility in my task as your representative and your advocate," she said. "I am so proud to be up here thanking you for all of your time, your commitment and your passion for a little thing called democracy."

The seat had famously



NDP's Megan Leslie celebrates her victory at the Lord Nelson last night.

been held by former NDP leader Alexa McDonough for 11 years.

Leslie watched the results come in with her family, and said it was a nerve-wracking experience. Though she jumped to an immediate lead, she said she only felt comfortable when her campaign manager called her down to the Lord Nelson to give a victory speech.

Meade, the Liberal candidate, later stopped by to congratulate Leslie.

"We did the best we could," Meade told Metro. "I was doing what I've wanted to do for a number of years. I know it sounds paradoxical but it was grueling as well as being invigorating."

### News in brief

**CORRECTION** Halifax Liberal candidate Catherine Meade was incorrectly identified in a riding profile in yesterday's Metro.

**AGRICULTURE** A collective approach to Maritime agriculture must be adopted if local food production is to thrive and local farm operations are to survive, says the P.E.I. Federation of Agriculture. The federation was reacting to a report recently released by GPI Atlantic that paints a bleak picture about farm economies of P.E.I. and Nova Scotia.

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[metronews.ca](http://metronews.ca)

What's online today.

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**Watch** MetroTube of the Day

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ShareYourViews

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Liberal MP Mike Savage, right, shakes hands with a supporter after holding onto his seat in the Dartmouth-Cole Harbour riding last night.

## Mike Savage grabs riding despite 'challenging' race

**SHEENA FINDLAY**  
for Metro Halifax



**Dartmouth-Cole Harbour Liberal incumbent Michael Savage thanked a cheering 100-plus crowd of supporters last night, taking the stage to the Rocky theme song complete with bright flashing lights.**

Savage was re-elected MP in what looked at times like a nail-biter. In the end, he defeated NDP candidate Brad Pye with just over 3,000 votes in last night's federal election.

"It's been a challenging

**"We haven't lost, it's just a minor setback. There will be another time to push the NDP agenda forward."**

NDP candidate Brad Pye

campaign for us. Here in Dartmouth-Cole Harbour, it was no different except that we had the team that was focused on winning this riding and making sure we do the right things for the people here," Savage said.

Conservative candidate Wanda Weber congratulated Savage with a hug and kiss on the cheek.

"We both ran very good and respectful campaigns which was really important for me, so I wish him the very best."

"He was not successful his first time around, and he reminded me of that, so we'll see in four years time," Weber said.

Pye said the NDP put forth an extraordinary campaign. "We haven't

lost, it's just a minor setback. There will be another time to push the NDP agenda forward," he said.

Savage's supporters clapped and cheered a job well done for their candidate.

"Mike is a very honorable man, he's been an excellent MP... it's promises kept, not promises broken," said Colleen Gutteridge, a volunteer for Savage's past three campaigns.

"I know people had a lot of faith in me as a member of Parliament, and I very much appreciate that," Savage said.

## Ex-Tory Casey easily keeps seat as independent

**LINDSAY JONES**  
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Ex-Tory Bill Casey says his massive win is a message to Stephen Harper's Conservative government: do not bully MPs.

"Members of parliament should not be punished for voting on behalf of their constituents," Casey said while celebrating at his Truro headquarters last night. "Members of parliament should be able to speak on upon their behalf. Everybody knows it."

Casey clobbered his rivals last night in the fight to win back his Cumberland-Colchester-Musquodoboit Valley seat. The former long-time Conservative became an independent last year after the prime minister kicked him out of caucus for voting against his party over the Atlantic accord. And he still maintains the Government of Canada broke its promise by changing the terms of the 2005 Atlantic accord.

He says his win goes to show the people think so too.

"I'm proud of the people for voting this way," he said. "It shows people were



Bill Casey, left, talks to Jeff Bickerson at Nova Enterprises in Truro on the campaign trail earlier this month.

unrestricted by a party line."

Casey's win comes despite being at a disadvantage with regards to fundraising.

The Elections Act prevents independent candidates from fundraising before the writ is dropped, but party riding associations are free to do so before elections.

**ShareYourViews**

halifaxletters@metronews.ca

## Thibault loses seat in West Nova

**UPSET** West Nova Liberal incumbent Robert Thibault lost to Conservative candidate Greg Kerr by a wide margin Tuesday.

At the beginning of the campaign, Thibault had said his Conservative counterpart was too old to run

in an election. He was also accused of making sexist comments towards Marjory LeBreton, the government leader in the Senate.

In 2006, Thibault narrowly beat Kerr — by just 511 votes.

**ZEB QURESHI/FOR METRO HALIFAX**

## Tight race in Halifax West sees Liberal incumbent retain seat

After a few anxious early moments, Geoff Regan got a hero's welcome at a Bedford pub last night as the re-elected MP for Halifax West.

"I think we've had a terrific campaign," Regan said after supporters greeted him at the door.

"I think overall Atlantic Canada has said, 'Look, we don't trust what Stephen Harper is doing. We don't agree with it and he's betrayed this region.'"

He said his first concern back in Ottawa will be the economy.

About 100 supporters waited for Regan at Brew-

ster's, which was decorated with red balloons and campaign signs. Things were quiet in the early evening, with most standing around the television, quietly sipping their drinks.

Around 9:30 p.m., Regan was reported just 300 votes ahead of NDP candidate Tamara Lorincz. The bar stayed quiet until 20 minutes later when Regan was declared Halifax West MP for the fifth time. Cheers rang out and the waitresses got busier as relieved supporters sat down to eat and drink.

Afterwards, the NDP's

Lorincz said Regan "misrepresented and maligned" her on the first day of campaigning. She said Regan's main tactic was convincing people to vote Liberal out of fear of a Conservative majority.

"I would have preferred to have run on the record and on the issues, (rather) than engaging in those kinds of tactics," Lorincz said.

She said she will continue to work for the environment, social justice and the rights of women and children.

**DEVIN STEVENS/FOR METRO HALIFAX**



Halifax West MP Geoff Regan and his wife Kelly raise their arms in celebration as they walk into Brewster's restaurant last night.



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# Prison guards picket Burnside jail

## Union upset over firing of three guards after alleged excessive use of force

JENNIFER TAPLIN  
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**Outraged by the firing of three prison guards, around 65 people picketed the Burnside jail and the Department of Justice yesterday.**

"It's not just us against the inmates anymore, it's us against management," said one worker who was too afraid for her job to provide her name. "We are now triple banded. Our level of danger has gone up."

The three firings and nine suspensions came after what Deputy Justice Minister Fred Honsberger calls an excessive use of force incident.

Security cameras caught the Aug. 1 incident in which a guard at the Central Nova Scotia Correctional Facility in Burnside was assaulted by an inmate and other workers responded.

"What we saw on camera was disturbing to us in terms of the level of force

**"What we saw on camera was disturbing to us in terms of the level of force that was used against an offender."**

Deputy Justice Minister Fred Honsberger

that was used against an offender and that concern on our part prompted the discipline that was taken," Honsberger told the media in the Department of Justice Terminal Road building while protesters marched outside.

Jim Gosse, president of the Nova Scotia Government and General Employees' Union Local 480, said police cleared the three guards.

"We're obviously very encouraged by that," he said.

"We believe it's no coincidence two of those three individuals were instrumental in carrying out work refusals over unsafe escorts this past spring."

But Const. Brian Palmer with the Halifax Regional Police said the investigation is still ongoing.

An adjudication hearing for the fired employees was expedited by the Justice Department. Gosse said he expects it within six weeks, whereas ordinarily it could have taken years.

Honsberger said the hearing was expedited because the level of discipline handed out was so extensive.

Prison guards are also still upset with their working conditions, Gosse said. "We've seen what happens when we don't have the staff and we don't have the equipment and we're lacking in training to deal with situations," he said.

A prisoner was mistakenly released from the Burnside jail earlier this month, making him the fourth prisoner to be released by accident this year.



Around 65 correctional workers protested outside the Department of Justice building on Terminal Road in Halifax yesterday. They protested the firing of three guards and their working conditions.

## Group to help Cape Breton's poor

**SYDNEY** Locals have started a new group to help the poor in Cape Breton.

Jan McCabe, a nutritionist for Public Health Services, said the Coalition for Action and Awareness to Address Poverty wants to raise awareness and act as an advocate for the poor.

McCabe encouraged people to come to a public meeting Thursday, which is World Food Day, from 7-9 p.m. at the Lyceum to learn about the coalition and, hopefully, to join.

People in Cape Breton are struggling in different ways, some of them not so obvious, she said.

### myth busters

- The coalition wants to raise awareness and debunk myths about people on limited in-

comes, for instance the perception that nobody goes hungry in this day and age.

"We do see it when children are coming hungry to school," she said. "We see it when we are looking at things being difficult for families to be able to afford to have children enrolled in things at schools."

"You see it in seniors in particular with not much flexibility in their budgets for anything that is beyond their standard of getting them through."

In Cape Breton, there are also people struggling to live on minimum wage, she said.

"It's under the surface ... that's part of the problem."

The coalition got its start after a survey last year of food banks in the area that is covered by the Cape Breton District Health Authority. The survey was sponsored by Public Health Services. **THE CAPE BRETON POST**

## Celtic Colours festival a goldmine for talent scouts

**BADDECK** Any day in Cape Breton is a good day according to Tom O'Connell, one of two dozen delegates participating in the Celtic Colours International Festival buyers and media program.

The representative with the Milwaukee Irish Fest gave that compliment Monday following a networking

session for international delegates at the Inverary Inn in Baddeck before heading out to take in some more festival events. Currently

taking in his seventh Celtic Colours festival, O'Connell says he enjoys every minute of his trips to Cape Breton. He said the Milwaukee Irish Fest has benefited greatly from its association with Celtic Colours and learned ways to improve their own event.

"We come here to basically network with other festivals and hear great music," said O'Connell, noting one of his main jobs while in Cape Breton this week is to keep his ears open for new, emerging artists who they may invite to perform in Milwaukee.

"We try to introduce our audience to the roots of Celtic music worldwide. We're looking for things that are fresh," he said.

Davie Henderson of the Shetland Folk Festival is also making a return visit to Cape Breton and the Celtic Colours festival this year.

"This is my fourth time here because I love the place, the people and the music," he said. "There's a really great vibe and excitement."

Shauna Walters and Jennifer Pino, co-ordinators of the Celtic

Colours international buyers and media program, explained that the whole idea is to export Cape Breton talent by targeting and inviting some of the most influential people on the festival circuit and international media to Celtic Colours.

This year, 24 international delegates from the United States, the U.K., France and Ireland are taking part in the program, travelling across the island, listening to music and considering a large number of performers for participation in their own events around the globe. **THE CAPE BRETON POST**

### News in brief

**DEATH** RCMP are investigating a sudden death in

Cumberland. A man was found lying on the shoulder of the road behind a vehicle on the Cobeguid Pass of Highway 104, just west of the Toll Plaza Monday. Two vehicles stopped to help while the police were called, and a doctor happened to be in the second car. The doctor examined the man, but pronounced him dead at the scene. RCMP say an autopsy is scheduled, but foul play is not suspected in the man's death.

**CRASH** A woman received non life-threatening injuries to her face in a two-vehicle crash Tuesday morning.

The accident happened at the corner of Dunbrack and Willett Streets around 8 a.m. No one else was hurt.

**MAGAZINES** Occasions, a food and drink magazine produced by Transcontinental Specialty Publications for the NSLC, was recently a finalist in the Integrated Marketing Awards presented in New York City. The magazine was up against Wired and a Bloomingdale's magazine. Wired was the eventual winner.

**CRASH** A driver was taken to hospital Tuesday morning after a two-vehicle accident in Halifax. It happened just after 11 a.m. at the Corner of Charles and Clifton Streets. The other driver was charged with failing to yield to a vehicle in an intersection.

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A search continues for two Bangladeshi men who went missing after apparently trying to swim to shore from a cargo ship moored in Vancouver's English Bay. Three crew members were reported missing Monday morning from the Panamanian-registered tanker ship, *Ginga Falcon*, which was anchored less than a kilometre from shore. The body of one of the men was found Monday, but there has been no sign of the other two.

CBC NEWS ONLINE

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[www.comwave.ca](http://www.comwave.ca)

## Election 2008



# Expect more drama in House

## Experts talk about possible scenarios with another Tory minority

**As the dust settles from another federal election, Canadians may spend today blinking and wondering whether the past five weeks were just a dream.**

But despite the same old outcome yesterday — Prime Minister Stephen Harper in charge of a minority government — the Canadian constitution does allow for some unlikely but interesting possibilities in the months to come.

Three constitutional experts weighed in with scenarios that could change the status quo.

A crucial thing to remem-

ber is while the Governor General is not obliged to follow the will of the prime minister, she has to be careful exercising this authority, said Edward McWhinney, a former Liberal MP who has advised heads of state on constitutional matters.

"The Governor General is part of our checks and balances and there is a discretionary role still. There is the power to act in certain circumstances, but the Governor General is not elected and it is a power that would be used only with extreme caution," he said.

**"The Governor General is entitled to inquire and find out whether somebody else will enjoy the confidence of the House."**

Professor emeritus Ned Franks

After an election the initiative remains with the prime minister and he is entitled to face the House of Commons.

Once the House of Commons is in session, a minority government always has the chance of being defeated on a non-confidence motion.

This would not necessarily mean the calling of a

new election, said Queen's University professor emeritus Ned Franks, especially if the vote were to occur within a few months of Parliament reconvening.

Instead, "the Governor General is entitled to inquire and find out whether somebody else will enjoy the confidence of the House," Franks said.

"This would not be (a par-

ty leader) just saying, 'Oh sure, I have it! No problem,'" he said. Rather, he said, two or even three parties would have to credibly undertake to enjoy the confidence of the House together — and make a public commitment to govern as a partnership "for a period of say, two years."

However, University of Toronto professor emeritus Peter Russell felt coalition power-sharing was an unlikely prospect in the current political landscape, even if the Liberals were to hold the most seats.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

### Final poll numbers

Who was most accurate?

#### Angus Reid Strategies (Oct. 13)

Conservative — 37  
Liberal — 27  
NDP — 20  
Bloc — 9  
Green — 7

#### Harris-Decima (Oct. 13)

Conservative — 34  
Liberal — 25  
NDP — 19  
Bloc — 11  
Green — 9

#### Nik Nanos (Oct. 12)

Conservative — 34.2  
Liberal — 26.7  
NDP — 21.4  
Bloc — 9.5  
Green — 8.2

#### EKOS (Oct. 13)

Conservative — 34.8  
Liberal — 26.4  
NDP — 19.4  
Green — 9.6  
Bloc — 9.8

#### Strategic Counsel (Oct. 13)

Conservative — 33  
Liberal — 28  
NDP — 18  
Bloc — 10  
Green — 11

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

### Recap

## Conservatives dominate in the West

**RETURNS** Conservatives won the west by dominating in Alberta and Saskatchewan as expected, and the NDP made gains at the Liberals' expense in Manitoba and British Columbia.

B.C. was the biggest western question mark, with three-way races in ridings so tight that both Stéphane Dion and Stephen Harper made last-minute pitches in the province on their final day of the campaign.

With 36 of the 92 western seats on offer, battleground British Columbia could have given the Conservatives a majority. But while the Tories made gains, they weren't enough.

The Conservatives were leading in 24 ridings, the NDP with five and the Liberals with two in early polling results an hour after polling stations closed.

In the divided urban Vancouver ridings, the battle was mainly between the Liberals and the NDP, while the Conservatives dominated the fast-growing eastern suburbs.

The safest seat for B.C. Liberals was supposed to be Vancouver South, where former Liberal cabinet minister Ujjal Dosanjh was set to win again handily. For the NDP, the Vancouver East riding by party House Leader Libby Davies was also a sure thing.

But the pivotal seat of Vancouver Centre, where Liberal MP Hedy Fry faced three strong challengers was too close to call.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## May vows to stick around with Greens

Green Leader Elizabeth May is vowing to hold onto her job after her party failed to win a seat but scored its highest popular vote ever.

The election results also suggest Green support may have played a role in producing May's worse nightmare — vote splitting that helped elect a Conservative minority government.

May, 54, was herself soundly defeated in her own riding of Central Nova, losing to Defence Minister Peter MacKay, the incumbent for the past 11 years.

The failure to win seats — May had high hopes for as many as eight — could see May face questions about her leadership. But May insists she's secure in her job.

"I have no intention of stepping down," May said last night. "I'm the best leader for this party. Nobody else could have taken it to where we are right now."

May insisted that her straight-forward talk and focus on issues resonates with voters looking for a reprieve from stale, traditional politics.

But in the unexpected event that her party won a seat, she said she was prepared to hand over party leadership to the elected MP.

May's high-profile campaign is largely responsible for the boost in Green support. But some party members accuse her of bleeding supporters by repeatedly calling on voters to back anyone but Conservatives in hotly contested ridings.

"This is not an occasion for tears, friends, this is a celebration for a job well



Green party Leader Elizabeth May stands at the podium during a speech at a post-election rally last night in New Glasgow, N.S. May was defeated by Peter MacKay in the Central Nova riding.

**"I have no intention of stepping down. I'm the best leader for this party. Nobody else could have taken it to where we are right now."**

Elizabeth May

done," May told dejected supporters at what was supposed to be her victory party.

The party's best showing were second place finishes in Bruce-Grey-Owen Sound in Ontario and in May's riding.

May told Torstar News

Services during the campaign that she could not live with herself if she contributed to vote splitting that help re-elect a Conservative government. With Green support nationally at about 7 per cent, compared to 4.5 per cent they received in 2006, May ac-

knowledgeed that her candidates may have been involved in some centre-left vote splitting. But she blamed the NDP for most of the splitting that allowed that allowed Conservative victories.

In her own riding, May's failure to attract a majority of orphaned Liberals contributed to her defeat. Liberal Leader Stéphane Dion decided not to run a candidate against May after she described him as the best realistic choice for prime minister. That left more than 10,300 Liberal voters in the 2006 election up for grabs.

MacKay took May's challenge seriously, spending all but a handful of days campaigning there.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

### News in brief

**TURNOUT** Advocates have tried to convince young people to vote for their future; immigrants to vote for their new country; and everyone else who's eligible to just get off their couches and vote because it's the right thing to do. Those activists will be scouring the election results today to see whether their efforts paid off. As preliminary results rolled in last night, it was difficult to tell whether turnout was up or down from the last federal election. In 2006, it was 64.7 per cent, up from 2004's turnout of 60.9 per cent. A steady improvement in this election could be a sign that the pressure to vote is starting to have an effect. A further decline would be the latest evidence that Canadians don't feel compelled to vote the way they did 50 years ago when voting peaked with more than 79 per cent going to the polls.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

## \$290M

The estimated cost of this federal election is \$290 million, according to Elections Canada. That puts the price tag at \$837 million for the last three elections held in the last four years (\$270 million — 2006; \$277 million — 2004).

METRO NEWS SERVICES



## Did you know?

The oldest Canadian prime minister to take office was Charles Tupper, who was 74 years, 10 months old, when he became PM on May 1, 1896. Canada's youngest prime minister was Joe Clark, who took office at the age of 39 years, 11 months, on June 4, 1979. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

canada 9

Election 2008

## Vote unlikely to affect stock markets

**TSX** Toronto's benchmark stock index may have "outperformed" Wall Street's S&P 500 under previous minority governments, but history may not repeat itself this time around because the financial crisis is threatening to trigger a global recession, investment experts predicted yesterday.

The deepening financial crisis largely eclipsed the federal election, prompting Toronto's S&P/TSX Composite Index to fall in tandem with key stock markets around the globe.

While the TSX managed to recoup a portion of those losses during yesterday's massive 9.82 per cent

**"The systematic effect of what is happening in the financial markets so swamps this election."**

Eric Kirzner

rally, it is still down nearly 34 per cent from its all-time high set in June.

"The systematic effect of what is happening in the financial markets so swamps this election," said Eric Kirzner, a professor of finance at the University of Toronto's Rotman School of Management. "Toronto cannot be driven by unique factors — not a chance."

The arrival of another minority Conservative government — with both the Liberals and New Democrats holding some power as opposition parties — will likely spark muted gains for the TSX because minority Parliaments "have often worked very well," he said.

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

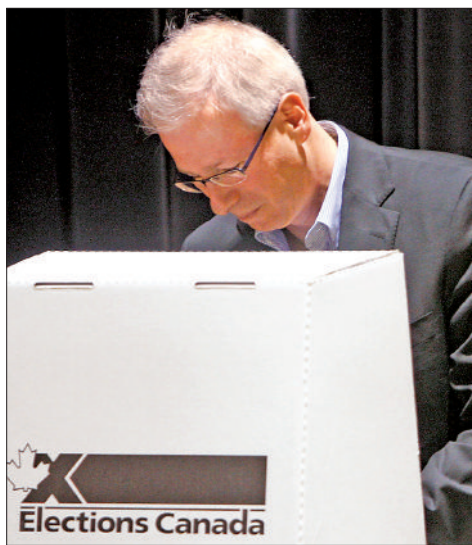
# Dion's uphill battle

**Stéphane Dion, 53, running a national election campaign as leader for the first time, spent most of the contest playing catch-up.**

Despite 19 months at the helm of the Liberal party, he was still trying to cement a positive image with voters. Unpopular with many Quebecers because of his efforts during the Jean Chrétien years to rein in nationalist aspirations, and little known among English Canadians, the Liberal standard bearer was at a tremendous disadvantage against veteran campaigners like Harper and the NDP's Jack Layton.

He was hamstrung by divisions within his own party and, for more than a year, the Conservatives spent millions of dollars on advertising targeting Dion in an effort to make him appear weak, indecisive and nerdy.

Voters' cool attitude toward Dion was a problem at the door for the Liberals throughout the 37-day effort, candidates said private-



Liberal leader Stéphane Dion marks his ballot as he votes in his riding of Saint Laurent-Cartierville in Montreal, yesterday.

ly. And he confided late in the campaign that the unprecedented barrage of negative personal advertising was more damaging than he had realized at first.

But the most devastating moment in the entire campaign came as Dion was starting to hit his stride in the next-to-last week. CTV took the controversial step

of airing an embarrassing interview segment with Dion after agreeing to treat it as an outtake. With Harper jumping in to accuse Dion of incompetence after the interview became public, the Liberals' own polling numbers took a sharp dive as many voters apparently began to wonder if Dion was ready to be prime minister.

Dion's campaign also suffered from being built around the Green Shift strategy for fighting climate change. While it balanced higher fuel taxes with deep income tax cuts, the plan was open to being characterized by Harper and Layton as a huge tax grab.

By the end of the first week, Harper held a daunting lead in the polls and many Canadians, including some Liberals, were writing the Liberal leader off as a hopeless loser.

But Dion, who won his party's leadership against all odds and is used to being underestimated, never conceded defeat.

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

## NDP win new seats, 'building project' continues

**NDP** It wasn't the orange wave that NDP Leader Jack Layton predicted across Canada, but for the New Democrats it was a respectable showing last night with several new seats.

"We are up everywhere in popular vote," party spokesperson Karl

Bélanger told Torstar News Service last night.

"We won a seat for the first time in Newfoundland in a general election. The trend is good, but is obviously still a building project. This campaign will

definitely set the base for next step," Bélanger said.

The new seats, most of them in Ontario, mean that Layton's record is intact.

This is the third campaign for Layton, 58, since he took over the leadership in 2003. In that time, he brought the NDP from 13 seats to the 30 seats the party had when parliament was dissolved Sept. 7.

The strong Conservative minority puts to rest any

talk of a coalition featuring the Liberals and NDP.

Trying to separate himself from the pack, Layton lashed out at the big banks and oil companies for ripping consumers off, aided and abetted by the Conservative and Liberal parties poised to give them huge tax cuts.

His policies of clean air, consumer protections laws, job protection, a \$50-billion corporate tax cut rollback, more doctors and nurses, re-

laxed immigration laws, a handgun ban, national daycare, pharmacare and ending the war in Afghanistan were all designed to appeal to the middle class.

Campaign officials concede they drew strength and comparison to the Obama campaign after attending the Democratic convention and early Layton was asked he thought he was Canadian version of the charismatic Obama, to which he quipped "I'm shorter."

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

## Tories fail to crack large urban centres

**CITIES** There were few bright lights in Canada's biggest cities for the Conservatives last night as Prime Minister Stephen Harper's promises largely failed to stir urban voters.

A lack of major breakthroughs in Toronto and Montreal followed a push by activists seeking more help from the Conservatives for cash-strapped cities.

His message to Harper was simple: pay more attention to municipal issues or pay the price at the ballot box.

"I think the election results speak for themselves," said Toronto Mayor David Miller, who

**"I think the election results speak for themselves."**

David Miller, mayor of Toronto

singled out the Conservatives as the only party that did not offer hope of "substantial" aid from Ottawa for cities.

In early tallies, the Conservatives were on the way to nine seats in the Toronto area — up from six — none in Montreal, according to the Elections Canada website. In early returns, the Conservatives were doing well in Vancouver, however, leading in 12 seats compared with five for the NDP and two for the Liberals.

Still, across the country, Harper's party appeared headed for more seats than the 2006 election, giving the prime minister a larger minority government.

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

## Harper given benefit of doubt in Quebec

Quebecers saw fit to give Prime Minister Stephen Harper the benefit of the doubt yesterday.

His attempt to more deeply seduce the province with his avowed record of open federalism had appeared to stall midway through the campaign.

But shortly after the polls closed, the Conservatives were leading or elected in 10 ridings in Quebec, one fewer than at Parliament's dissolution, possibly indicating Conservative support was underestimated in the waning days of the

### ministers hold on

• Conservative ministers Josée Verner and Jean-Pierre Blackburn — badly trailing in polls during the campaign — held on to their seats. As well, dis-

graced former foreign minister Maxime Bernier was easily re-elected in Beauce with 63 per cent of the vote, despite the Julie Couillard affair.

campaign, when polls showed the Tories could lose as many as five seats.

The Bloc Québécois, after what analysts said was a good campaign by leader Gilles Duceppe, held 50 ridings late last night, denying the Conservatives the seats they needed to form a ma-

jority government. The Bloc captured 51 seats in 2006.

Another surprising result in Quebec was the strength of the Liberal Party, leading in 15 ridings. This, in spite of party leader Stéphane Dion — considered anathema to many Quebecers for

his role in the Clarity Act, which many viewed as a straitjacket for Quebec separation.

As expected, the Liberal's star candidate, 36-year-old Justin Trudeau, son of the late prime minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau, was leading in his riding of Papineau, giving a boost to the party's sagging fortunes in Quebec.

But another Liberal candidate, comedian Sébastien Dhavernas, was also leading in Outremont — formerly held by the NDP's Thomas Mulcair.

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

## Tories break through in Ontario

Stephen Harper's Conservatives have broken a 15-year Liberal stranglehold on Ontario.

While early returns showed the Tories did not win enough of Ontario's 106 seats to secure a majority government, party insiders were elated last night at besting Stéphane Dion's Liberals in Canada's most populous province.

"Winning Ontario is a huge triumph for Stephen Harper," Conservative Envi-

ronment Minister John Baird, the prime minister's Ontario point man, said last night.

"We need to focus like a laser on the economy. Ontario's future depends on it," Baird, re-elected in Ottawa West-Nepean, told the Torstar News Service.

"The people of Ontario have given great support to Prime Minister Stephen Harper and we will work hard to honour that trust."

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

**"Winning Ontario is a huge triumph for Stephen Harper."**

John Baird

People on Medicare who get elective surgery to open blocked heart arteries often do not get the recommended stress tests to confirm the surgery is warranted, U.S. researchers said yesterday. **REUTERS**

# World/Business

## Obama gaining steam: Polls

Trying to revive his campaign, Republican presidential nominee John McCain offered proposals yesterday to help investors rebound from the stock market crash while Democrat Barack Obama prepared for the candidates' final debate.

"What we need to see now is swift and bold action to lead this country in a new direction," McCain told cheering supporters in the battleground state of Pennsylvania.

McCain has sought to regain his footing on economic issues for the past three weeks after drawing

**"What we need to see now is swift and bold action to lead this country in a new direction."**

Republican presidential candidate John McCain

criticism for saying the U.S. economy's fundamentals were strong despite brewing signs of crisis on Wall Street that ultimately gave way to the biggest stock market drop since the Great Depression.

During that time Obama has prospered, moving from a tie with McCain in national polls to a lead.

In bad news for the McCain campaign, a Quinnip-

iac University/Wall Street Journal/ Washington Post poll yesterday gave Obama sizable leads in four battleground states.

The Illinois senator, who has hammered economic issues in his own campaign speeches, was up 52 per cent to 43 per cent for McCain in Colorado, 54-38 in Michigan, 51-40 in Minnesota and 54-37 in Wisconsin.

One day before the candidates face-off in their third and final presidential debate, a new national opinion poll showed Obama leading his Republican rival by 14 percentage points.

Obama had 53 per cent support to McCain's 39 per cent in the CBS News/New York Times survey.

With three weeks to go until election day, the stakes are high for the third and final debate between the two candidates.

The debate is scheduled to take place at 9 p.m. EDT tonight in New York.

**REUTERS**

## Business

## TSX gives thanks with record rally

**Toronto's premier stock index staged a massive rebound yesterday, surging nearly 900 points, as investors cheered plans by U.S. and European governments to collectively invest about \$2.5 trillion US of taxpayer money into beaten-down bank stocks with an eye to preventing a global recession.**

The S&P/TSX composite index — which was closed for the Thanksgiving Day holiday — was quick to play "catch up" to Monday's colossal rally in global markets, surging in early trading by as much as 18 per cent and recording its biggest-ever intraday spike. It later gave back a huge

swath of that gain, closing up 9.82 per cent, or 890.5 points, at 9,955.66. Nonetheless, it was the steepest percentage advance on record for the index.

"Clearly the Canadian market is catching up to what the rest of the world did yesterday (Monday) in terms of responding favourably to the various plans that governments put in place," said Kate Warne, a Canadian market strategist with brokerage Edward Jones in St. Louis, Mo.

For its part, the TSX remains firmly in bear market territory, down nearly 34 per cent from its record high set June 18.

**TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

## California Watching and waiting



Residents Eric Francisco and wife Shirley Francisco watch a news broadcast of the Los Angeles wildfire with other evacuees. Firefighters made gains yesterday against two deadly brush fires threatening homes as winds that stoked the flames diminished.

## Markets slip amid U.S. promises, recession fears

The United States ushered in a new era in banking yesterday with plans to take equity stakes totaling up to \$250 billion US in financial institutions, an incursion into the private sector that U.S. officials called a regrettable last resort.

Markets initially rallied on the rescue plan, continuing the previous day's rebound, but recession fears soon took over and Wall Street stocks closed lower.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Henry Paulson said government ownership of big stakes in banks was "objectionable" but necessary to head off the financial crisis.

"At a time when events naturally make even the most daring investors more risk-averse, the needs of our economy require that our financial in-

stitutions not take this new capital to hoard it, but to deploy it," Paulson said.

Governments around the world have pledged roughly \$3.2 trillion US in a variety of schemes that guarantee bank deposits, inter-bank lending and the purchase of new securities to shore up bank capital.

Paulson said nine banks that he described as "healthy institutions" had agreed to accept government stakes for the good of the U.S. economy.

"These measures are not intended to take over the free market but to preserve it," President Bush said. He said the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation would guarantee new bank debt and that the Federal Reserve would become a buyer of last resort.

**REUTERS**

## Violence in Afghanistan worst in six years, according to UN envoy

**WAR** The insurgency in Afghanistan has spread beyond Taliban strongholds in the south and east while the number of attacks in the country has reached a six-year high, a top UN envoy said yesterday.

Violence in Afghanistan this year is worse than at any time since U.S.-led and Afghan forces toppled the militant Islamist Taliban in 2001. Fears are growing among NATO members that they are losing both the military campaign and the support of ordinary Afghans.

"In July and August we

witnessed the highest number of security incidents since 2002," UN special envoy to Afghanistan Kai Eide told the UN Security Council.

The rise over the same period in 2007 was nearly 40 per cent, he said.

Eide said the insurgency has spread beyond the south and east and extended to provinces around Kabul.

There has also been an increase in attacks on civilians, including aid-related and humanitarian personnel, he added.

**REUTERS**

**"These measures are not intended to take over the free market but to preserve it."**

President Bush

## News in brief

**BORDERS** Thailand sent more soldiers to a disputed stretch of the Cambodian border near the 900-year-old Preah Vihear temple yesterday, a Thai general said, hours after a Cambodian general said Thai troops had pulled back.

**SPACE** The sons of a Russian cosmonaut and a U.S. astronaut met in space yesterday when spaceman Sergei

Volkov welcomed American Richard Garriott on board the International Space Station. Garriott, a game developer paid \$35 million US for his trip.

**STORM** Tropical Storm Omar grew quickly to near-hurricane strength yesterday, threatening Puerto Rico and the small islands of the northeastern Caribbean with flash floods.

**REUTERS**

## Daimler to close Ontario plant in 2009

**CLOSURE** Daimler AG will close two plants, in St. Thomas, Ont. and Portland, Ore., to address a deep North American market slump that shows no signs of easing, the world's biggest truckmaker said yesterday.

It said the move to chop its capacity by 20 per cent would improve annual earnings by \$900 million US by 2011.

The Ontario facility will close in March; the Oregon facility in June 2010.

Around 2,300 workers will lose their jobs.

**REUTERS**

## In brief

**AUTOS** Labour unions in the U.S. and Canada expressed concern about the prospect of job losses from any merger between General Motors and Chrysler. The potential merger remains just speculation.

**ONLINE** eBay is planning a major expansion of its U.S. web classifieds unit Kijiji as its online auctions slow, but experts say it's unlikely it will overtake rival Craigslist, the dominant player in the U.S.

**INSURANCE** Concerns about the capital position at Manulife Financial Corp. are overblown and Canada's largest insurer is not looking at issuing common shares or cutting its dividend, its chief executive said. **REUTERS**

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**Madden breaks his consecutive commentary streak**

John Madden, who has called an NFL football game in 476 consecutive weeks, will take this Sunday off to spend more time with his family. The 72-year-old, who travels by bus because of a fear of flying, would have had to travel to Tampa from San Diego, where the Chargers defeated the Patriots Sunday night. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

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# Sports

SPORTS@METRONews.CA



## Pacman suspended indefinitely

Dallas Cowboys cornerback Adam (Pacman) Jones has been suspended indefinitely without pay by the NFL for an alcohol-related altercation with a personal security guard at a Dallas hotel last week. Jones will be suspended at least four games for violating his reinstatement arrangement, which expected the 25-year-old to refrain from any behavior that puts him, his team or the league in a negative light.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Jagr-less N.Y. in charge

## YorkReport

**Marty York**

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They no longer have Jaromir Jagr, but they have, um, Aaron Voros — and the New York Rangers are on fire.

And if they defeat the Buffalo Sabres tomorrow night, the Rangers will catapult to 6-0, which would be the best start in their long history.

"We honestly didn't expect to come out of the gate like this," goaltender Henrik Lundqvist confessed.

"But we're realizing we have something special. We're exceeding expectations because our players have some surprising skills."

Among them is Voros, a 27-year-old Vancouver native initially chosen 229th overall in the 2001 NHL

## Stairs swings for fences

• Former Blue Jay Matt Stairs, who hit a dramatic, game-winning, pinch-hit home run in the Philadelphia Phillies' triumph over the Los Angeles Dodgers in the NL championship series Monday night, is anything but traditional when it comes to his hitting

philosophy. While virtually every other major-leaguer claims they step to the plate with the objective of making good contact, Stairs openly admits he aims for homers. "I try to hit the ball out of the park," he said. "I'm not going to lie. It's fun."

Draft. He couldn't reach the NHL until last season, when he had a cup of coffee with Minnesota.

On Monday, in the Rangers' 4-1 triumph over the New Jersey Devils, Voros stood out with two goals and an assist, pushing his points total to seven. He produced only 14 points in 55 games with the Wild last season.

"When we scouted him, we saw a greasy player who would work hard and go to the difficult areas to score goals," Rangers coach Tom Renney said of Voros, whom the Rangers signed as a free agent this

past summer. "We got him for a reason, and he's doing exactly what we figured he'd do."

Jagr, meanwhile, is playing for Avangard Omsk in the Kontinental Hockey League, and, privately, the Rangers are whispering they're better off without the future Hall of Famer and his mood swings.

• It's very early in the NHL season, but sources tell us:

Mike Keenan will be toast as Calgary coach if the Flames don't get hot soon.

Luke Schenn is poised as an 18-year-old defenceman

for the Toronto Maple Leafs, but relies too heavily on his wrist shots and has yet to fire a slap shot in three games.

The Chicago Blackhawks are souring on goaltender Cristobal Huet and will start alternating him with Nikolai Khabibulin.

• Now that Paul Beeston has rejoined the Blue Jays as interim president, don't be surprised if his ex-partner, Pat Gillick, isn't far behind ... The Yanks also covet Gillick, who's in his final days as the Philadelphia Phillies' general manager ... I keep hearing J.P. Ricciardi's days as the Jays' GM are numbered, regardless ... A whole bunch of players given away by the Jays in minor trades over the years are starring in the league championship series, including the Los Angeles Dodgers' Casey Blake and the Philadelphia Phillies' Matt Stairs and Jayson Werth.

Marty York has been a groundbreaking sports columnist and broadcaster in Canada for decades.



Tampa Bay Rays' Willy Aybar hits a two-run home run last night against the Boston Red Sox in the third inning during Game 4 of the ALCS playoff series at Fenway Park in Boston.

## Rays relentless in ALCS

**MLB RECAP****Tampa Bay 13 Boston 4**

**BASEBALL** Evan Longoria and the Tampa Bay Rays blew out the Boston Red Sox for the second straight game to take a commanding 3-1 series lead in the ALCS.

Longoria hit his rookie-record fifth home run of the playoffs to lead the Rays on a relentless rout of aging knuckeball pitcher

Tim Wakefield.

Wakefield was victimized by Longoria, Carlos Pena and Willie Aybar for homers before being chased in the third inning.

The defending World Series champions will face elimination on Thursday as the series shifts back to Tampa for the fifth game.

Tampa is attempting to become one of the rare teams in sport to go from worst to first following their last place finish in 2007. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

## Atlanta thrashed by Wild

**NHL ROUNDUP****Minnesota 4, Atlanta 2**

**HOCKEY** Antti Miettinen scored twice and Andrew Brunette had a goal and an assist as the Minnesota Wild dispatched of the Atlanta Thrashers by a 4-2 margin at Philips Arena.

Marian Gaborik added an unassisted tally while

Miettinen also assisted on Brunette's first period goal. Niklas Backstrom halted 24-of-26 shots to get the win for the Wild, who won their season opener at home on Saturday, 4-3, against Boston.

**Penguins 3 Flyers 2 (OT)**

Pascal Dupuis scored with 11 seconds remaining in overtime to give the Pittsburgh Penguins their second overtime win of the year. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

**MATTHEW WUEST**

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**FOOTBALL**

The door isn't closed on Erik Glavic returning to the Saint Mary's Huskies' football lineup in the post-season.

The 6-foot-6 quarterback, last year's Hec Crighton Trophy winner, consulted with the team's doctor and coaches yesterday and decided he will continue working toward returning for the first game of the playoffs, likely on Nov. 8.

He is recovering from major knee surgery as well as a strain sustained in a comeback attempt on Sept. 19.

"There's a chance he'll be back," Huskies head coach Steve Sumarah said. "What the chances are, I don't know."

"Anytime there's a chance he can continue to play, that's a positive. I'm not convinced it's gonna happen, but there is a possibility and I'm OK with that."

The Huskies are scrambling to figure out who is starting if Glavic doesn't return, and it appears rookie Jack Creighton might be the guy, if he's healthy. He sat out last week with a bruised rib that affects his breathing and his throwing.

Sumarah said Creighton, the son of former NHLer Adam Creighton, is "100 per cent" in the mix to start on Saturday on the road against the

Mount Allison Mounties.

Nathan Marsman was yanked from Saturday's 37-20 loss to the Montreal Carabins after throwing three interceptions and struggling to move the ball. Ted Abraham had more success, but also made some costly mistakes.

The Huskies, who are 5-1, plummeted four spots to seventh in Canadian Interuniversity Sport's weekly rankings yesterday. They had been ranked third since the pre-season.

## Vlasanek leaves Mooseheads, heads home

**MATTHEW WUEST**

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**QMJHL** Tomas Vlasanek didn't last long in Halifax.

The 19-year-old right-winger voluntarily left the Halifax Mooseheads yesterday, just five days after being acquired in a trade from the Bathurst Titan. Vlasanek, who had no

points in two games with the Mooseheads, told team management he "did not feel comfortable in Halifax" and will return to his native Czech Republic.

"It was really unexpected," Mooseheads general manager Marcel Pannaut said. "He was really

pumped up to come here, but he just wasn't happy once he got here."

Vlasanek was given a big role with the Mooseheads, skating on the top line with Tomas Knotek and Logan MacMillan.

The Mooseheads gave up a sixth-round draft pick for

Vlasanek, but it's expected that the Titan will arrange compensation due to the his unusually brief stay in Halifax.

Twenty five players are left on the roster. The Mooseheads, 3-9, aren't expected to make any more moves before visiting the Lewiston Maineiacs on Friday at 8 p.m.

## Sports in brief

**JUNIOR A** The Halifax Lions fell 2-1 to the host Bridgewater Lumberjacks last night in Maritime Junior A Hockey League

play. Jordan Stapleton scored for the Lions, 2-10-2. Scoring leader Chad Locke sat out with a minor injury. **METRO HALIFAX**

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TONIGHT'S GAME

Philadelphia at L.A. Dodgers, 9:22

(Philadelphia leads 3-1)

**NHL**

LAST NIGHT

Pittsburgh 3 Philadelphia 2 (OT)

Minnesota 4 Atlanta 2

Colorado at Calgary, 9

Anaheim at Los Angeles, 10:30

Columbus at San Jose, 10:30

TONIGHT'S GAMES

Buffalo at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.

Boston at Montreal, 7:30 p.m.

Phoenix at Chicago, 8:30 p.m.

Nashville at Dallas, 8:30 p.m.

Edmonton at Anaheim, 10 p.m.

# Automotive

A METRO JOINT VENTURE WITH:

carguide

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA



## The modern and swoopy 6

### New Mazda 6 gains size and power

**Mazda's success in lifting the 6 (or Atenza in other markets) to global acclaim — out of the 626's boring mould — was no small feat.**

For North America, Mazda poked and prodded the 6 to nearly become the largest car in its class. One body style is offered, a sedan, fitted with your choice of either a powerful 170-hp 2.5L four-cylinder engine or a really powerful 272-hp 3.7L six-cylinder engine. That motor is wrapped in a four-door shell, modern and swoopy, helped along by even the smallest wheel size being 17-inch alloys.

In Asia, Europe and the Middle East, the 6 is offered in three body styles like the outgoing model: Sedan; five-door hatchback; or wagon. It's offered with a range of engines, including diesels. And size-wise, it's nearly identical to the outgoing car while "our" 6 is more than seven inches longer than "their" 6. Ours is also slightly larger in all other measurements, including weight.

Do I need to express which one Canadians would rather drive?

Despite wanting to hold the, um, dimensions against it, the new 6 is simply larger than the original in every dimension: Wheelbase is lengthened by 115 mm; overall length is greater by 195 mm; and overall width is increased by 60 mm. The upshot? You'll benefit from more headroom, shoulder room, legroom and cargo room —

the trunk grows by a useful 39 litres to 469 litres.

Inside, the 6 is a mix of current Mazda themes — pronounced centre stack, multiple red displays and a sporty instrument binnacle. Kudos to Mazda for keeping the two trim levels similar in interior appearance, with the base car feeling upscale — without making the top trim cars appear too cheap. Cubbyholes are everywhere, but perhaps not as many as in an Accord.

The car is offered in two trim grades, GS and GT. And listen closely because it gets murky: Each trim level is available with either the four-cylinder or six-cylinder engine. On four-cylinder models, the standard transmission is a six-speed manual, with a five-speed automatic optional. On V6 models, a six-speed automatic is the only transmission available.

The four-cylinder GS starts at \$22,495. You want standard features? Seventeen-inch wheels, anti-lock brakes (ABS) with electronic brake force distribution, traction control, front and side airbags as well as side-curtain air bags, height-adjustable rear headrests, anti-theft alarm system, and engine-immobilizer are included, as are power windows, tilt and telescopic steering wheel, AM/FM/CD/MP3/AUX-IN stereo with six speakers, air conditioning, 60/40 split-fold rear seat. Both a five-speed automatic transmission with Sport mode (four-cylinder models) and satel-



lite navigation system are available as standalone options.

When equipped with the 3.7-litre V6 engine, the GS gets fog lights and LED tail-lights and bumps to \$27,495.

With the four- or six-cylinder motor, the only package available on the GS is labelled "Comfort" — included are: Dynamic stability control, eight-way power driver's seat, sunroof, leather-wrapped steering wheel, shift knob and parking brake handle, and rain-sensing wipers.

The GT trim is basically the GS with the Comfort package plus a few goodies, at a starting price of \$27,395 for the four-cylinder. Eighteen-inch alloy wheels, fog lights, LED tail-lights, leather interior, heated front seats, four-way

#### 2009 Mazda 6

**Type:** Sedan  
**Price:** \$22,495 and up  
**Engine:** 2.5-litre I-4 or 3.7-litre V6  
**HP:** 170 and 272

#### Highlights

- Larger than predecessor
- Light, direct steering
- Looks upscale

power adjustable passenger seat, automatically dimming mirrors, six-disc CD changer, Homelink, and trendy "indirect illumination" from the overhead console. Don't forget you've still got to pay extra for the six-cylinder motor.

Top-range 6s will trot from the factory draped in the "GT Luxury" package, with smart keyless entry system and push-button ig-



Increased dimensions on the Mazda 6 means you will benefit from more headroom and shoulder room.

nition, BOSE surround sound system, Bluetooth integration, SIRIUS satellite radio compatibility, and HID headlights with manual leveling adjustment. On GT V6 vehicles, the package also includes a blind spot monitoring system and a welcome foot light on exte-

rior mirrors.

Light-but-direct steering, high levels of grip, impeccable turn-in, under-control torque steer and predictable body roll and lean mean the 6 can be wound up and enjoyed if you're in a hurry.

CAR GUIDE STAFF  
FOR METRO CANADA

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# A tough cookie

Suzuki delivers a true 'ute with Grand Vitara

There's a lot to like about the Grand Vitara, especially in this latest iteration, where utility and performance of a full-size SUV have been mated to the styling, economy, and ease of use normally associated with a car-based cute 'ute.

Suzuki is still an unknown quantity for many buyers, but once you've taken the Grand Vitara off-road, you begin to appreciate the engineering feats Suzuki has accomplished. First, this is a true 4WD vehicle. It's unibody with an integrated ladder frame, plenty of ground clearance, and an impressive 4WD system that's capable of sending all of the vehicle's power front or rear — or anywhere in between — depending on the conditions. You can't say the same for the competition who trade off-pavement potential for everyday comfort.

Sure, the Grand Vitara could ride a bit better, but

2009 Suzuki Grand Vitara	
Type: SUV	
Price: \$25,995-\$32,695	
Engine: 2.4-litre four-cylinder or 3.2-L V6	
HP: 166 or 230	
Highlights	
• 4WD	
• Highest tow rating in class	
• Reasonably priced	

it's by no means harsh — it's actually quite surprising just how well it's been tuned for on-road comfort. The big news for 2009, apart from the slightest of interior and exterior freshening, is the addition of a four-cylinder engine.

The unit is a relatively fuel-efficient 166-hp 2.4-litre four-cylinder engine, with a more powerful 230-hp 3.2-L V6 optional. Suzuki says the mix between four-cylinder and six-cylinder



**Once you've taken the Grand Vitara off-road, you begin to appreciate the engineering feats Suzuki has accomplished.**

models in the Grand Vitara's class is tilting in favour of the four-bangers across the segment — from a 40/60 ratio just last year to more than 50/50 now. That means Suzuki is also expecting to double their market share, a goal that seems perfectly reasonable.

But in keeping with the rough-and-tumble capabilities, the vehicle has been blessed with a four-mode 4WD system that can switch between 4-High and

4-Low, and to neutral for flat towing. Oh, and it also has the highest tow rating in its class, at 1,360 kg for the four-cylinder mode and 1,360 kg for the V6. It's one tough cookie.

What's new for 2009: Six standard airbags; ESP (V6 models only, includes Hill Hold and Hill Descent Control); rear disk brakes with ABS, EBD and Brake Assist; chrome-plated inside door handles; extendable sun visors and sliding armrest; a

vehicle information dash display; eight speaker premium sound system (JLX); bigger front grille and front bumper; 17-inch alloy wheels (V4); 18-inch alloy wheels standard on the V6.

Pricing starts at a competitive \$25,995 for the Grand Vitara four-cylinder in JA trim with a five-speed manual; fully loaded four-cylinder models ring in at \$28,995. The larger V6 costs an additional \$2,500, to \$31,695 — and a Grand Vitara V6 in full-zoot leather interior hits \$32,695. In all, it's a compelling product at a reasonable price.

CARGUIDE STAFF/FOR METRO CANADA

## Change of heart at the lot

**BUYING** A majority of vehicles in the U.S. are rejected only after a new-vehicle shopper has visited a dealership, according to the J.D. Power and Associates 2008 Escaped Shopper Study.

The study, which analyzes the reasons why consumers consider a model but ultimately purchase a different make or model, finds that 80 per cent of vehicles are rejected after a new-vehicle shopper has visited a dealership.

Three dealer-related issues are among the top reasons for not purchasing a vehicle: Another dealer has better service; limited availability of the specific vehicle shoppers are looking for on dealer lots; and lack of professionalism among personnel at the dealership.

The study also finds that an increasing number of shoppers have considered buying an Asian brand, 63 per cent in 2008, up from 60 per cent in 2007.

Conversely, the proportion of shoppers who considered buying a domestic brand has decreased, down to 55 per cent in 2008 from 58 per cent last year.

Shoppers who cross-shop among Asian and domestic brands are more likely to purchase an Asian brand and most often cite retained value, reliability and gas mileage as primary reasons for their choice.

In contrast, customers who purchase a domestic brand instead most commonly cite a desire to "buy American" as their primary reason for purchase, followed by rebates and incentives offered, and vehicle price.

More shoppers cited gas mileage as a reason for rejecting a vehicle, up to nearly 20 per cent this year from nearly 17 per cent in 2007.

## Mitsubishi team wins Maritime race

**NEWFOUNDLAND** Team Mitsubishi, piloted by Andrew (ACP) Comrie-Picard and co-driver Jen Horsey posted a first place driving their Lancer Evolution in the Modern division of the world-renowned Targa Newfoundland.

This event featured an endurance-testing course that covered 2,200 kilometres of travel across coastal highways on the eastern half of Newfoundland, from St. John's north to Gander, south to the Burin Peninsula and back to St. John's.

## Automotive in brief

**SPONSOR** Honda Canada announced it has signed a multi-year agreement with Andretti Green Toronto for the title sponsorship rights to the Toronto-based IndyCar Series event to be named Honda Indy Toronto. Scheduled for July 10-12, 2009, the Honda Indy

Toronto will be part of next year's 18-race IndyCar Series schedule and will also feature the Firestone Indy Lights Series as part of the weekend's diverse activities. Information about the Honda Indy Toronto, is available at [www.honda-indytoronto.com](http://www.honda-indytoronto.com).

## 'Magic wagons' hit 25

**VANS** In 1983, the Internet was in its infancy, the first mobile phones were introduced and Chrysler was assembling a new automotive innovation — the first minivan.

While "baby boomers" were starting families in large numbers and looking for an economical alternative to automotive transportation, traditional sedans and wagons continued to get smaller due to pollution and fuel economy concerns.

After numerous concepts, Chrysler product planners agreed on a platform theme that utilized a flat-load floor with the entire powertrain in front of the passenger compartment.

Utilizing a front-engine, front-wheel-drive chassis design, Chrysler engineers created a platform with chair-high command-of-the-road seating and easy entry and exit.

Chrysler's new "magic wagon" program faced uncertainty with tough U.S. economic conditions. It was not until the federal Chrysler Loan Guarantee Board approved \$1.5 billion US for future product



The 1984 Plymouth Voyager, one of the first "magic wagons" that revolutionized family transportation.

programs in 1980 that Chrysler had the funding to move forward.

With new capital to invest, and an economical program budget of \$660 million, all bets were on the production of the magic wagon. The program was a "go," receiving its official internal chassis program designation of "T-115."

On November 2, 1983, the first minivan rolled down the assembly line in Windsor. These 1984 model-year Dodge Caravan and Plymouth Voyager models quickly appeared in dealerships alongside the Dodge Aries and Plymouth Reliant K-cars.

Chrysler's minivans were

an instant success. As the minivan became a cultural icon throughout North America in the 1980s, its introduction to the international markets helped establish and solidify the Chrysler brand worldwide.

The newest fifth-generation minivans — Chrysler Town & Country, Chrysler Grand Voyager and Dodge Grand Caravan — encapsulate more than 65 minivan-first features and more than 25 years of development in minivan leadership.

With more than 12 million minivans sold worldwide and over 260 awards, Chrysler and Dodge minivans are continuing to make history.

It's time to start thinking about this winter.



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# Wise picks for young drivers

## Parents need to put safety first when buying cars for teens

**Parents faced with the challenge of choosing a first car for their teens should consider five tips from experts.**

Designed to help protect young drivers, these suggestions focus on safety, which also helps to lower the cost of auto insurance.

A fast sports car conjures exciting images, while an SUV has ample room for all of their friends, and both vehicles have one thing in common: neither is a good choice for teens.

Before car shopping begins, it is wise to set ground rules that may ease the polarized viewpoints shared by parents and their teens.



Fast sports cars and roomy SUVs may not be the best options when picking a vehicle for young drivers, experts suggest.

### WATCH THE SPEED

Driving fast cars with turbochargers and high horsepower carries significant risk. Since car accidents are the leading cause of death among 15- to 20-year-olds (one-third of

those accidents are attributable to speeding) any fast car is an unwise choice.

A good choice is a vehicle with a four-cylinder engine and average horsepower, which costs less to

insure and may save lives.

### GROUNDING IN REALITY

When it comes to vehicles, many parents mistakenly presume that big equates to safe. The oppo-

sition is often times true for young drivers, however, as SUVs and pick-up trucks can pose significant dangers for teen drivers.

These vehicles have a high centre-of-gravity,

which makes them less stable and more prone to rollover than traditional mid-sized sedans, especially for inexperienced drivers.

Pick-up trucks are two times more likely, and SUVs

three times more likely, to roll over than traditional passenger cars.

### BUY 1997 OR LATER

While pre-owned cars are less expensive, older models may be more costly to insure, and they often don't have modern safety features found on newer cars.

Although many parents can't afford new or almost-new vehicles, they should focus on models manufactured in 1997 or later, the year airbags were required in all cars.

### KNOW THE SCORE

Whether shopping for a new or pre-owned vehicle, always check crash-test scores.

### ASK FOR A RATE QUOTE

Before you go car shopping, find out how much it will cost to insure your teen in his or her new car.

## STAY SHARP THIS WINTER



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## B-Class an unexpected hit

JIM ROBINSON  
for Metro Canada



**Hugely popular in Europe and abroad, the B-Class is not the first car one thinks of when you mention Mercedes-Benz.**

The image of Mercedes-Benz in North America is of prestige vehicles loaded with technology. But in the rest of the world, Mercedes sells an astounding range of cars, buses and trucks that fill every price and need.

And while our American cousins eschew compact sedans and hatchbacks, they have always been popular here, as witnessed by the success of the smart car.

Built to Euro-tastes, the first B-Class cars were brought into Canada in 2005 as a down market, entry-level car.

With plastic wheel covers over steel wheels and black door handles, they didn't resemble what we think of as a Mercedes-Benz with all the prestige and pride that comes with the three-pointed star.

But the new model adopts E-Class character lines that rises progressively from the front wing to the rear taillight, an interesting divergence between the concave and convex surfaces along the flanks. The tailgate is restyled with



### 2009 Mercedes-Benz B-Class

**Type:** Luxury compact hatchback  
**Price:** \$29,900-\$34,400  
**Engine:** 2.0-litre, DOHC inline four-cylinder and 2.0-litre DOHC turbocharged inline four-cylinder

#### Highlights

- FWD
- Turbo charge available
- Split-fold back seats

a chrome lower lip that adds to the overall upscale look, but also makes it easier to slide in big or heavy objects.

The interior is amazingly large for such a small car. At 1,530 litres, the length of the cabin is a full 70 per cent of the total length. The split/fold back seat has a pass-through for longer objects and the cargo floor is height adjustable.

The B-Class is available in a base B 200 with 2.0-litre,

DOHC inline four-cylinder engine with 134 hp and 136 lb/ft of torque. The B 200 Turbo, with a turbocharged version of the 2.0-litre, produces 193 hp and 206 lb/ft of torque. Priced at \$29,900 to start, the B 200 is fitted with a five-speed manual transmission. Starting at \$34,400, the B 200 Turbo has a standard six-speed manual transmission. With all options, you can load up a B-Class to \$40,000.

The B-Class' uses a "sandwich" front safety crash system that angles the engine back and down under the passenger compartment for lower leg and knee protection. The result is the highest possible safety rating for frontal collisions, high seats and views, and deep rear passenger leg wells.

While only about 8,400 B-Class cars have been sold in Canada, worldwide sales are more than 350,000 and growing, a trend Mercedes-Benz Canada thinks will happen here.





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The California Travel and Tourism Commission says that in 2007, a record number of Canadian travellers visited the state — 1,148,000, marking an 11 per cent increase from 2006. CTTC has worked aggressively in the last few years to target Canadian visitors.

California bound

METRO NEWS SERVICES

# Travel

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## Bringing home an unwelcome souvenir

If you're squeamish, stop reading! This is a disgusting travel tale that reads more like a sci-fi flick than it does a real life occurrence.

Two weeks ago, I was in the western part of Belize taking part in a jungle survival course for a story. As I hacked through dense vines, my guide listed potential dangers: venomous Fer-De-Lance snakes, carnivorous jaguars, hot-tempered fire ants and the little-known Bot Fly.

Found in Central America, a Bot Fly looks much like a house fly, only bigger and hairier. It breeds by attaching its eggs to a mosquito. When the mosquito bites its victim the Bot Fly larvae burrows into the host's skin and grows into a plump, white worm.

Since I'd worn long pants, dressed in light-coloured clothing and doused myself in DEET I figured I was protected. But I left the jungle with itchy red mosquito bites and lingering questions. My paranoia grew, as did a mysterious red pimple on my butt. Along with the occasional burst of pus, there was a stinging sensation. People thought I was crazy, but I was convinced — I had Bot Fly.

Having never heard of

### TheTravelJunkie



Julia Dimon

juliadimon.com

Bot Fly, my Canadian doctor concluded it was an infected mosquito bite and wrote a prescription. The diagnosis led me to Dr. Mom. A travel writer herself, Mom is familiar with tropical oddities. Though she doesn't have medical expertise, she's good at tweezing her eyebrows, so we sterilized her pluckers and prepared for surgery. "I see something white," she said, looking at the wound. "Is it pus?" I stammered. "What is it?"

I looked up and found she had extracted a little white worm. The larvae was the size of a fingernail, a spiral of black hairs along his body. We stared, astounded.

My stomach went queasy. I felt a combination of relief, disgust and I-told-you-so bravado. Sick! I'd just delivered my very own Bot Fly, a most unusual souvenir.

Julia Dimon is co-host of Word Travels, airing on OLN; juliadimon.com.

## Happy 800th

The University of Cambridge is one of the oldest in the world. In 2009 it celebrates 800 years as a seat of learning with a year-long programme of events in the city, across the U.K. and around the world. Celebrations start on Jan. 17 when churches in the city will ring their bells for the anniversary year. VISITBRITAIN.COM



## 18th-century journey

Explore lavish U.K. homes, gardens seen in *The Duchess*

EMMA E. FORREST  
for Metro World News

Keira Knightley's new movie, *The Duchess*, is the perfect way to spirit yourself back to the 18th century.

The movie is based on the biography of Georgiana Spencer, a beautiful aristocrat who marries the wealthy but cold duke of Devonshire. While her marriage is empty, her social schedule is full — she's a society darling, fashion icon, political campaigner, adulterer, compulsive gambler and England's first celebrity.

But just as dramatic as Georgiana's story are the lavish costumes, towering wigs and the sumptuous 18th-century sets.

Director Saul Dibb was committed to making the set as authentic as possible, so the movie was filmed in real 18th-century homes and gardens.

Cast and crew travelled England to find suitable locations in which to film, picking a dining room from one house and a ballroom from another in order to create the perfect look.

Filming was challenging, not only because of the attention to detail but because of the restrictions on filming in these protected, historic homes.

Viewers get the chance to see inside some of the most opulent historic houses in England throughout the movie, but can also go for a snoop



Keira Knightley walks down the hall of Greenwich Naval College in London.



Chatsworth House, which was built between 1686 and 1707 and is still the Devonshire family's home today. Run by the current duke and duchess, the house is seen in the movie *The Duchess*.

in person — all of these stunning places are open to the public. Georgiana's country home, Chatsworth House, was built between 1686 and 1707 and is still the Devonshires' home today.

Set in extensive grounds, in the stunning rolling green hills of the Derbyshire countryside, this vast manor and the magnificent gardens are

open to the public, so you can sweep through the long corridors like Knightley does in the film.

Unfortunately, the duke and duchess's London residence, Devonshire House, no longer exists, so Dibb had to create it by using the best of some of the most majestic stately homes in England.

One of London's loveliest art galleries, the Neo-

classical Somerset House was used to represent the exterior of Devonshire House.

Come here to see the building's grand Edmond J. Safra Fountain Court that Georgiana enters by horse-drawn carriage when she is first taken home by the Duke and greeted by legions of servants. The building is home to the Courtald Gallery, which has one of the most important collections of art in England, including works by Cezanne and Rembrandt (somerset-house.org.uk).

Another house used to portray Devonshire House is Kedleston Hall in Derbyshire. The gardens and five of the rooms in this Neoclassical mansion, owned by the National Trust, were used during filming, as well as Althorp, the Spencer family home, and one of Georgiana's rented villas in Bath.

Two of Kedleston's staffers were used as extras on the five-week shoot here, and four property managers had to follow the crew around the house to ensure the interiors weren't damaged.

Until March 2009, Kedleston Hall will be showcasing some of Knightley's costumes for *The Duchess* and behind-the-scenes photos of the shoot here, as well as parts of a replica floor that was made to protect the Marble Hall floor during a ballroom scene (nationaltrust.org.uk/main/jw-kedlestonhall).

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**Thomas catering to TV appetites**

Veronica Mars creator Rob Thomas will soon be whetting our TV appetites weekly with his new comedy, *Party Down*. The program, to be produced for Starz Media, will focus on six Hollywood wannabes who work together at a catering company. **TVGUIDE.COM**

# Entertainment



## Miley's story

Singer/actress Miley Cyrus has finished writing a book about her life at the age of 15. The star was reportedly paid a seven-figure sum to tell her "inspiring story."

BBC NEWS ONLINE

# Symphony set to croon

PHILIP CROUCHER  
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**Symphony Nova Scotia is going big band to salute Ol' Blue Eyes himself, Frank Sinatra, this Friday at 7:30 p.m. at the Rebecca Cohn Auditorium in Halifax.**

As part of a co-production with Walt Music, Symphony Nova Scotia is teaming up with crooner Daniel Matto and local jazz band John Chiasson Trio to play Sinatra's legendary songbook, which includes performances of *I've Got You Under My Skin*, *Come Fly With Me* and *Autumn Leaves*.

"I've never done anything on this scale with a band this big before," said the 29-year-old Matto, an Australian jazz singer who now lives and per-



Singer Daniel Matto is teaming up with Symphony Nova Scotia for a night of Frank Sinatra songs.

forms in Halifax. "The trio is great. I've played with them quite a bit before.

With the symphony, it's just amazing to have that feeling of power behind

you. It can only inspire you."

Matto regularly sings

Sinatra songs when he performs locally at bars, but this will be the first time he's done a whole evening of his music.

Friday's show is close to selling out as there are less than 50 tickets remaining. Ticket prices range from \$32 to \$47.50 and are available at the Rebecca Cohn box office, or by calling 494-3820.

"I'm not pretending to be him or anything. It's just an honour to be a part of this and to be singing his tunes," Matto said. "They're great songs. He did good work, so it's kind of big shoes to fill."

The salute to Sinatra show also takes place at the Membertou Centre in Sydney on Monday and at The Yarmouth Arts Regional Centre Playhouse on Nov. 12.

## Floyd's Wall being celebrated

**CONCERT** The Australian Pink Floyd Show is coming to the Halifax Metro Centre to perform the band's legendary rock opera *The Wall* in its entirety on Saturday, Dec. 20.

The show is celebrating the 30th anniversary of the release of the British psych-rock band's seminal 1979 album.

Tickets go on sale Saturday at 9 a.m. and cost \$39.50, plus service charges. Call Ticket Atlantic at 451-1221, or online at ticketatlantic.com.

## Edwards crowned Miss Nova Scotia

**PAGEANT** Megan Edwards was crowned the new Miss Nova Scotia World on Sunday at the Lord Nelson Hotel in Halifax.

Edwards finished first out of 13 pageant competitors. Edwards will now compete at Miss World Canada next March in Toronto, along with runner-ups Olivia Polkowski and Laura Chedrawe. **METRO HALIFAX**



Megan Edwards

# Dal Theatre play offers comedy and tragedy

PHILIP CROUCHER  
philip.croucher@metronews.ca

**THEATRE** Roberta Barker calls *The Witch Of Edmonton* a play with comedy, tragedy and seemingly everything in between.

"It has everything from murder to morris dancing," Barker said with a laugh. "It's a pretty varied show. There's both humour and drama in it."

*The Witch Of Edmonton* is the kick-off play for a new season at Dalhousie University's Department of Theatre. Under the direction of Barker, an asso-

ciate theatre professor at the school, the play will premiere tonight at 8 p.m. at the David MacMurray Studio Theatre in the Dalhousie University Arts Centre.

Performances continue through Saturday at 8 p.m. There will also be a 2 p.m. matinee on Saturday. Written in 1621, *The Witch Of Edmonton* tells the story of a small English town near London that considers itself nice and law-abiding, but is actually full of hatred, bigamy, adultery and witchcraft.

There are three subplots to the story, including one of a woman who sells her soul to the devil after being shunned by the community she lives in. The devil comes in the form of a black dog.

"It really is a play about how easily we as human beings, who think of ourselves as fundamentally good, can become involved in evil," Barker said.

"That's especially true in rejecting other people based on their status or position, or demonizing other people.

"It can actually really lead a community into darkness and into a really terrible situation without even kind of noticing that it is happening."

*The Witch Of Edmonton* is the first of four plays presented this season by Dalhousie's theatre department, all of which explore the darkness that lurks within communities, and the unexpected blessings of change.

The other plays are *The Laramie Project* from Nov. 26 to 29, *The Caucasian Chalk Circle* from Feb. 11

## If you go

- **WHAT:** Dalhousie Theatre presents *The Witch Of Edmonton*
- **Tonight through Friday at 8 p.m. and Saturday at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m.**
- **WHERE:** David MacMurray Studio Theatre, Dalhousie Arts Centre
- **COST:** Tickets \$12 for adults, \$6 for students and seniors. Phone 494-3820 or visit [www.artscentre.dal.ca](http://www.artscentre.dal.ca)

to 14, and *Trelawney Of The Wells* from March 31 to April 4.

## In brief

**CONCERT** Jaydee Bixby, the 2007 Canadian Idol runner-up, is performing at Halifax Grammar School on Nov. 26 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 the day of show. They go on sale Friday at all Ticketpro outlets. **METRO HALIFAX**





Dennis Hopper has been made a commander in the French Legion of Honour after a Paris ceremony Monday. The Legion of Honour, established in 1802, is France's highest decoration. **BBC NEWS ONLINE**

**French honour for Hopper**

## Gates, Jolie top responsibility poll

**PEOPLE** Bill Gates topped the business category and Oprah Winfrey and Angelina Jolie scored high marks but many Americans said they had difficulty naming a responsible leader or celebrity, a poll suggests.

Most of the 1,001 questioned said they valued responsibility, but they just didn't see enough of it in other people. "The index shows that people want more responsibility ... but they're not always certain how to achieve that goal," said Kathy McManus, of Liberty Mutual Group. **REUTERS**

## Garth thrilled Priestley directing

**90210** Jennie Garth is thrilled her original Beverly Hills, 90210 co-star Jason Priestley will be directing an upcoming episode of the spinoff 90210, us-magazine.com reports.

"I'm happy that he's there. Jason directed a couple of episodes of the original show, and he was great," she told Us-magazine.com. "He's a hoot, so it'll be fun!"

Will Luke Perry be returning? "I don't know if that's going to happen, but I would love it," she said.

**METRO NEWS SERVICES**

# Passchendaele's coup

## Tiny budgets prevent production of Canadian war films

**RICK MCGINNIS**  
Metro Canada

**Canada produces a fraction of the films that come out of Hollywood, a number that dwindles into insignificance when you count other moviemaking giants such as India and China.**

Tiny budgets have en-

sured that genres such as epics and adventure films are nonexistent, so it's not surprising that we've only produced two war films in 25 years, the newest of which — Paul Gross' *Passchendaele* — is being released this Friday.

Like its predecessor, Robin Phillips' 1983 *The Wars*, it's set during World War I, and the pair may constitute the whole of the country's catalogue of fictional war films.

The fact isn't surprising — movie production in this country is as much a bureaucratic as a cultural undertaking, and the 1914-1918 war looms large in our cherished national myths, thanks to historians such as C. P. Stacey, who called it the most important event in Canadian history, and Desmond Morton and J. L. Granatstein, who dubbed it our war of independence.

The mere existence of a film like *Passchendaele* is a contribution to that long-standing project of buffing up our history — with an educational component ready to be sent into the schools, you can look at it as a belated update to the memorials and cenotaphs that went up in the centre of practically every city, town and village in the country in the years after the Armistice.

With such little practice, however, it's not surprising that *Passchendaele* is more familiar than groundbreaking.

The brutal truth is that most films about World War I still play out like re-makes of Lewis Milestone's Oscar-winning *All Quiet On The Western Front*, made in 1930 at the dawn of talkies.

Much as the war left an indelible mark on Canada,



World War I film *Passchendaele* opens in theatres Friday.

it established its imagery worldwide with nightmarish vividness early on, and every World War I movie ends up recreating the scenes that Milestone filmed when the generation that witnessed it in person hadn't even reached middle age — the endless trenches bracketing a deadly sea of mud and barbed wire, filled with the bodies, living and dead, of men who had learned firsthand about the absurdity of politics and the futility of life, a cultural mood that would still be a vital force well past the point when the next world war began.

Structurally, though, Gross' film is a very different creature, misleadingly titled, since scenes set in battle only bookend the melodramatic story of a soldier and a nurse well behind the lines — in Calgary, in fact.

In this light, *Passchendaele* is more like the 1957 adaptation of *A Farewell To Arms*, starring Rock Hudson and Jennifer Jones, or *D-Day The Sixth Of June*, a 1956 film which takes

place mostly in a flashback on the eve of the pivotal World War II battle, and concerns itself mostly with a love triangle between two soldiers and an Englishwoman.

Gross' apparent impatience with the actual battle that gave his film its title is to be expected; the best American film about World War II (William Wyler's 1946 *The Best Years Of Our Lives*) actually takes place after Japan and Germany are defeated, and you might argue that the best film about Vietnam (Francis Ford Coppola's *Apocalypse Now*) has about the same relationship to that conflict as a cheesecake has to a cow.

War is terrible enough that it's hard to imagine anyone wanting to spend two hours immersed in it, even in a theatre, so we use it as a setting for a romance (*The English Patient*) or an adventure (*Guns Of Navarone*), or even a bitter romance shot through with a castigating vision of a Canada rife with bigotry and intolerance (*Passchendaele*).

# metro's kooolest

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## Pam criticizes model

Pamela Anderson, right, has blasted model Katie Price for her parenting skills. "She shows off her kids all the time in TV shows — that's beyond low," Anderson reportedly told New! Magazine. **THE DAILY MIRROR**



## Bjork to Yorke or not to Yorke?

**MUSIC** Vocalist Bjork will release a new single featuring backing vocals from Radiohead front man Thom Yorke on Oct. 20, according to her camp.

The only problem, according to Radiohead's management, is that Yorke hasn't recorded anything new with Bjork, though



the possibility remains that his contribution to the single, Nattura, is a sample or was taped at some point in the past. No additional information about the nature of the collaboration was available about the single, which shares its name with an organization devoted to protecting Iceland's environment. Bjork played a benefit concert with fellow Icelandic natives Sigur Ros on behalf of Nattura this summer.

Bjork and Yorke previously sang together on I've Seen It All, from the 2000 film Dancer in the Dark.

# Networks spin the PVR effect

**NEVER TOO LATE:** The networks are sighing in relief and looking gratefully at the kids and their newfangled technology this week now that ratings figures for delayed viewing — shows watched on PVRs after they've had their broadcast premiere, in other words — are finally in.

According to a New York Times story from Monday, it took Nielsen three weeks to get an accurate read on delayed viewing numbers, and all in all, the numbers are good, so what's to complain about, right?

What the new technology has done, among other things, is allow the networks to defy simple laws of nature in their quest for viewers, such as the one that says no one can be in two places at the same time. When two big shows face off against each other on the same night — like Grey's Anatomy on ABC and The Office on NBC, for instance — no one has to choose if they can record one, or both, and enjoy them later. Both shows were big beneficiaries of PVR viewing, according to

## IntelVision



rick.mcginis@metronews.ca

Nielsen, with Grey's Anatomy picking up 4.2 million viewers and The Office picking up 2.5 million extra pairs of eyes.

House also got a boost, with 3.7 million viewers watching at their convenience, and Heroes, which has had very soft ratings since its season debut, picked up 42 per cent new viewers in the 18 to 49 demographic, and a total of 2.4 million new viewers on playback, almost making up for its supposedly lost viewers — no surprise for a show that skews youthful, and therefore is more technologically literate.

Hammering that little sociocultural point home, another geeky, youthful show — Fox's Fringe — also did well in delayed viewing, as did 90210 and How I Met Your Mother. Even more in-



Shows such as The Office, which airs opposite another hit like Grey's Anatomy, are big beneficiaries of the advent of the PVR.

teresting was that Sunday Night Football only picked up a scant 10,000 viewers in delayed viewing, and Dancing With the Stars picked up a mere 15 per cent of younger viewers. These numbers are proof that there are now two types of prime-time programs: "Event" shows that you need to catch live to have something to talk/blog/Facebook/Twitter about, and shows you take in at your leisure, like a

rented movie, without caring too much about having plot points spoiled ahead of time. The networks are going to have to figure out which one they're in the business of selling sooner or later, and their choice is going to have a bigger effect on TV than the advent of colour, perhaps even the introduction of cable. They'll have to figure out a new way to make money off of advertisers, though, since the conventional wis-

dom among ad buyers is that delayed viewing means skipped commercials — the president of research at NBC even went so far as to call PVRs "the ultimate frenzy."

It's a word that's probably going to join "get a horse" in the annals of executive cluelessness one day.

Rick McGinnis writes about music, movies, books and television, but not opera.

## NBC keeps riding with Knight

**TELEVISION** NBC has ordered four additional scripts for Knight Rider, a positive sign for the freshman drama, which has had a sluggish ratings start.

This is the second new scripted series after CBS' promising crime drama The Mentalist to receive an additional script pickup, often a precursor to a full-season order. Two freshman series, Fox's Fringe and the CW's 90210, have been picked up for a full season.

In its most recent airing Wednesday, Knight Rider attracted 6.9 million viewers, down from 7.8 million the week before.

## Fall Out Boy album delayed

**MUSIC** Fall Out Boy has delayed the release of its new album by six weeks to Dec. 16, citing concerns over the planned election-day tie-in for Folie à Deux.

"Six months ago we thought it would be a fun idea to release our album on election day, but this is not the election to be cute," the band said in a statement.

The first single from the album, I Don't Care, has sold 167,000 downloads in four weeks of U.S. release, according to Nielsen SoundScan.

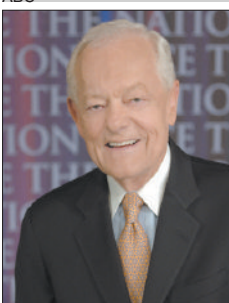
REUTERS

HA	H	D	B	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
10/15/08	31	31	7	ABC News (N)	ABC World News	Inside Edition	Chronicle	Pushing Daisies (N)		Presidential Debate (HDTV) (Live)		
	7	7	7	ASN	The Road to Avonlea	Robson Arms	TMZ (N)	Monk		Smallville		Supernatural
	11	11	11	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Little Mosque	Sophie (N)	CBC News: The fifth estate (N)	CBC News: The National		The Hour
	2	2	2	CBC-F	Providence (HDTV) (N) (SC)	Virginie (SC)	L'Épicerie	Le Match des étoiles (N) (SC)	M pour musique (N) (SC)	Le Téléjournal		
	32	32	32	CBS	News (N)	Evening News	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Old Christine	Gary Unmarr	Presidential Debate (Live)	
	69	69	69	CFMT	TVA 18 heures	Le Cercle (SC)	Occupation	Poule-oeufs or	Destinées (HDTV) (N) (SC)	Les Soeurs Elliot (N) (SC)		TVA 22 heures
	6	6	6	CHFF	Entertainment	ET Canada	House "Birthmarks" (N)	Bones	NCIS "Heartland" (N)	NCIS		News (N)
	9	9	9	CJCH	talk	Hollywood	So You Think You Can Dance Canada Top 18 (N)		Law & Order: SVU			News (N)
	10	10	10	ELTV	EastLink Mag.	Welcome	Fuelin' Around	Build It (N)	Doc Talk	The Job Zone	EastLink Television	
	36	36	36	FOX	Deal-No Deal	The Simpsons	TwoHalf Men	TwoHalf Men	MLB Baseball: NLCS Game 5 — Phillies at Dodgers			
prime time	12	12	12	NBC	News (N)	NBC News	Knight Rider (HDTV)	Extra (N)	Knight Rider (HDTV)	Presidential Debate (Live)		
	29	29	29	NW	World News	Business	CBC News	Newman	Canada Votes: Your Turn	Presidential Debate (Live)		
	4	4	4	PBS-B	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Greater Boston	Ask This Old		Secrets of the Dead	Presidential Debate (HDTV) (Live)		
	35	35	35	PBS-D	NewsHour With Jim Lehrer	Business Rpt.	Worldfocus		Secrets of the Dead	Presidential Debate (HDTV) (Live)		
	68	68	68	TOS	(6:30) Le Retour (SC)	Chemin du golf	Loft Story		En toute confiance *** (2003, Policier) Edward Burns. (SC)			110 pour cent
	23	23	23	BNN	Business News	Headline	Market Call	Commodities	Workopolis TV	Business News	Squeeze Play	Market Call
	18	18	18	CNN	(5) The Situation Room	Lou Dobbs Tonight			Debate Night in America (Live)	Presidential Debate (Live)		
	54	54	54	GOLF	Big Break X: Michigan	Golf With Style	Golf Central	Lessons	Golf Video	Top 10 (N)	The Approach	School of Golf
	52	52	52	RSE	Prime Time Sports	Sportsnet Con.	MLB Pregame		MLB Baseball: NLCS Game 5 — Phillies at Dodgers			
	55	55	55	SCOR	Hockey Talk	Game On	RaceNight					Score Tonight
news	45	45	45	SPD	Unique Whips	Pinks (HDTV)	Pass Time	Am. Thunder	Am. Thunder	Pinks (HDTV)	Pinks Outtakes	Wrecked
	53	53	53	TSN	Off the Record	SportsCentre	That's Hockey!	NHL Hockey Boston Bruins at Montreal Canadiens. (HDTV) (Live)				NHL Hockey
	43	43	43	FAM	Zoe 101	Wizard-Place	That's Raven	Zack & Cody	Natural-Sadie	Han. Montana	Life Derek	Ned's School
	44	44	44	TOON	World of Quest	Johnny Test	George-Jungle	Scooby-Doo	Scooby-Doo	Total Drama	Futura	The Critic
	26	26	26	TREE	Max & Ruby	Backyardigans	Wonder Pels	Night Grdn	Friend Rabbit	Franklin	Little Bear	Comfy Couch
	27	27	27	YTV	Drake & Josh	ICarly	Malcolm-Mid.	Home Improve.	Franklin	Franklin	Miss Spider	Mystery Hunt
	16	16	16	A&E	Cold Case Files (HDTV)	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Dog the Bounty Hunter		Dog the Bounty Hunter		Parking Wars
	70	70	70	APTN	News	Canadian Geographic		Reel Insights	APT National News: Contact			Tribal Treks
	50	50	50	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live			Paper Soldiers (2002, Comedy) Kevin Hart, Beanie Sigel.				Comic View
	37	37	37	BRVO	Street Legal "Film Noir"	Desperate Housewives	Judging Amy	Berkeley	BravoVideos	Wingfield	Letters	Arts & Minds
family	97	97	97	CLT	Mysterious Ways			At the Midnight Hour (1995, Romance) Patsy Kensit.				Mysterious
	25	25	25	CMT	CMT's Greatest (N)	Dallas Cheerleaders	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Comedy Inc.
	49	49	49	COM	Laughs	Comedy Now	Air Farce	Just for Laughs	Cornier Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Investigations
	153	153	153	COURT	Missing Link	The Investigators	Daily Planet (N)	Cops Uncut	Dumb Criminal	Classified	Unsellable	Mayday
	38	38	38	DISC	How It's Made	How It's Made	House Hunters	Cash Cab (N)	Factory Made	Monster Moves (N)		\$1M Listing
	48	48	48	HGTV	Holmes on Homes	Property Virgin	NCIS	Mansions	The Stagers	Property Virgin		NCIS
	46	46	46	HIST	The Real Amityville Horror			Cities of the Underworld	The Real Amityville Horror			Top Pop Group
	17	17	17	MM	Punk'd	Born to Be	MTV's Top Pop Group	disBand	Technical Diff.	PunchMUCH		Brooke Knows
	19	19	19	MMM	MusicProfile	mmmtop10.com	Popagenda	Back In	Listed			
	201	201	201	M1	(5:45) Infamous (2006)	The Golden Compass ** (2007, Fantasy), Daniel Craig	Ed's Up	Ed's Up	The Amazing Race 13	Ed's Up	Adventures	Word Travels
cable variety	48	48	48	OLN	The Amazing Race 3		House-Payne	House-Payne	The Cookout ** (2004, Comedy) Ja Rule.		Steve Harvey	Family Guy
	206	206	206	PIX	(6:30) The Nude Bomb	(8:15) Game *** (1976, Horror) Sissy Spacek			Bringing Out the Dead (1999, Drama)			
	67	67	67	RDI	RDI en direct	RDI en direct	Elections Canada 2008 "Le Bilan" (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)			Presidentialles
	39	39	39	SHOW	EastEnders	Saxondale	Kink in Hair	Kink in Hair	Durham County	Billable Hours	G-Spot	The Riches
	40	40	40	SLICE	Matchmaker	Til Debt-Part	End of Leash	ET Canada	Last 10	Bulging Brides	Work Out "Sky-Lab 2.0"	Housewives
	47	47	47	SPACE	Stargate SG-1 (DVS)	Lost "Exodus"	CSI: Crime Scene Investg.	Star Trek: Deep Space Nine	Battlestar Galactica	UFC Unleashed		Ghost Hunters
	14	14	14	SPKE	Unsolved Mysteries (HDTV) (N)	The Ellen DeGeneres Show	TMZ (N)	etalk	Paris Hilton's My New BFF	Tonight Show		Ult. Fighter
	98	98	98	STAR	FashionTele	Look-A-Like	Jon & Kate Plus 8	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Jon & Kate	Painted Babies	
	21	21	21	TLC	What Not to Wear "Kim"	Reality	Beverly Hills, 90210	Reality	What Happen?	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld
	34	34	34	TROP	Que-champion	Journal de Fr2	Toute une histoire	J'me sens pas belle	No Place Like	Un soir les Al		Enigma
cable variety	28	28	28	V	Side Effects	Murder, She Wrote	Will & Grace	Friends	Grocery	Maxed Out	Supersize vs. Superskinny (N)	Gok's Fashion
	22	22	22	W	House	Style by Jury	TwoHalf Men	Family Guy	America's Next Top Model (N)		90210 "The Jet Set"	WGN News
	251	251	251	WGN	Be-Millionaire	Evening News						

## critics' corner

## Presidential Debate

Foreign policy is the subject du jour as Republican John McCain and Democrat Barack Obama reunite for their third debate. Bob Schieffer, CBS News' chief Washington correspondent and moderator of "Face the Nation," moderates the event. 10 PM on ABC



## Pushing Daisies

In this new episode, Chuck, Emerson and Ned (Anna Friel, Chi McBride, Lee Pace) go under cover as a nun and two priests and pass themselves off as investigators from the Vatican to help Olive (Kristin Chenoweth) prove that her best pal at the convent didn't kill herself but was actually murdered in "Bad Habits." Apparently they die hard. 9 PM on ABC

## Gary Unmarried

Being married was no picnic, but being divorced ain't exactly sunshine and rainbows either. Gary (Jay Mohr), a recently single painting contractor, suffers through interaction with his controlling ex-wife. When she ends up engaged to their family shrink, Gary finally decides to take life by the horns and dates Vanessa (Jaime King), who hired him to paint her condo. Life unmarried is more complicated than we guessed. 9:30 PM on CBS





Singer Lisa Marie Presley and her husband Michael Lockwood have picked out names for their newborn twin girls: Finley and Harper. The couple's first children together were born Oct. 7. **PEOPLE.COM**

**Babies named**

## Celebrity Buzz

### Lohan's leggings honour Monroe

**FASHION** Lindsay Lohan is getting a leg up on fashion, having launched her own line of leggings yesterday, People.com reports.

The actress just posted on her MySpace page that her collection, called 6126, was to hit Henri Bendel's N.Y.C. store yesterday.

"I'm thrilled to announce that my new fashion collection, 6126, is finally ready for launch!" she says. "I love to wear leggings, so it should come as no surprise that my first venture into the world of fashion design is with leggings!" She goes on to explain the brand's cryptic name, saying, "I named the collection after Marilyn

Monroe's birth date, because to me she represents timeless, confident glam — and that is the voice of this brand."

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GETTY IMAGES PHOTOS

### Beckham staffers arrested after alleged theft

**PEOPLE** Two staff members working for Victoria and David Beckham have been arrested in England on suspicion of theft, imdb.com reports.

The housekeepers, who work at the celebrity couple's mansion in England, dubbed Beckingham Palace by the British media, were taken into police custody on Monday.

According to tabloid reports in the U.K., the former Spice Girl's parents, who run the Beckhams' estate in Hertfordshire, became suspicious of their staff after personal items from the Beckhams' home turned up on online auction website eBay.

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### Potter star spotted touring Harvard

**EDUCATION** Harry Potter star Emma Watson is taking her U.S. college plans to the highest level by touring one of America's most prestigious universities, imdb.com reports.

The young actress was spotted visiting the campus of Harvard University in Massachusetts last week for an open day.

Watson hinted about her plans to study abroad in an interview earlier this year.

"I've applied to a few universities for next year, including several American ones," she said. "If I do go there (America), I will do a liberal arts degree, but if I stay in the U.K., I'll do English literature."

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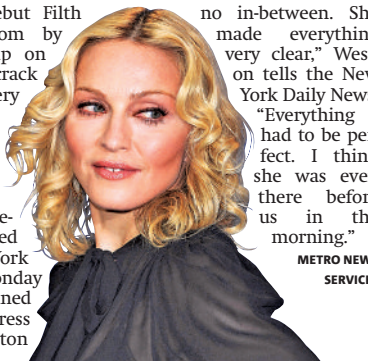


### Madonna's impressive ethic

**PEOPLE** Pop superstar-turned-movie director Madonna impressed the cast on the set of her film-making debut *Filth* by showing how dedicated she was to the project.

"She knew exactly what she wanted and there was no in-between. She made everything very clear," Weston tells the New York Daily News. "Everything had to be perfect. I think she was even there before us in the morning."

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### Sopranos star takes on fashion

**PEOPLE** Jamie-Lynn Sigler is joining the ranks of other celebrity designers and trying her hand at a jewelry line, People.com reports.

The former *Sopranos* star and her friend Holly Freeman are teaming up to create a custom line of bangles and pendant necklaces ready for order at the beginning of the year.

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### celebrity briefs

#### Aniston, Mayer seen smooching

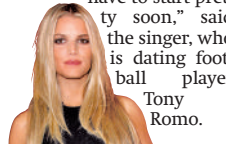
**ROMANCE** Actress Jennifer Aniston and singer John Mayer were spotted reportedly kissing in Los Angeles on Monday, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The pair, who split last month, reportedly arrived at the airport and were seen in a series of steamy embraces.



#### Simpson wants six children

**FAMILY** Jessica Simpson has revealed she wants six children, femalefirst.co.uk reports. "I'd love six kids running around, but I guess I'll have to start pretty soon," said the singer, who is dating football player Tony Romo.



#### Slater eager for Heathers sequel

**PEOPLE** Actor Christian Slater is reportedly eager to return to the big screen alongside Winona Ryder in a sequel to their hit film *Heathers*, imdb.com reports. "Yeah, sometimes I see Winona (Ryder) and she's like, 'Are you ready to do *Heathers* 2?' And I'm like, 'Sure!' I would do it in a heartbeat. I would totally love to do that character again, J.D.," Slater tells AOL Television.



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### FameThrower

#### Joe O'Neill



Joe's take on celebrities

**Jennifer Aniston** and **John Mayer** are officially the principals of the According to Jim of celebrity relationships. You didn't pay any attention to it the first time it was on, and now, for some unfathomable reason, it's in reruns. That's right, the woman who could dig potatoes with her chin and the guy who makes me wish **Stevie Ray Vaughan** had a better helicopter pilot are 'reheating the cabbage,' as the Italians say.

Or so they would have you believe. Isn't it funny that every time St. Angeli-na, Our Lady of Perpetual Hype, is on the cover of a magazine for doing something extraordinary like providing sustenance for her children, **Brad Pitt's** ex gets herself in the news, either for declaring that she doesn't need anybody or for snogging with the **Jimmi Hendrix** of the Ritalin generation?

The details of the latest press release seem to have been written by Jen herself. Perhaps she is contemplating writing a series of romance novels with herself as the heroine. These would be a great addition to the children's book she penned in the '90s, *The Prettiest Friend*, and her signature perfume, *Cougar*, which doubles as a pregnancy test.

Perhaps I'm being too cynical. Maybe they're just two crazy kids who can't keep their hands off each other. What's the name of that film Aniston is to start promoting? Oh yeah, *He's Just Not That Into You*. Coincidence, surely.

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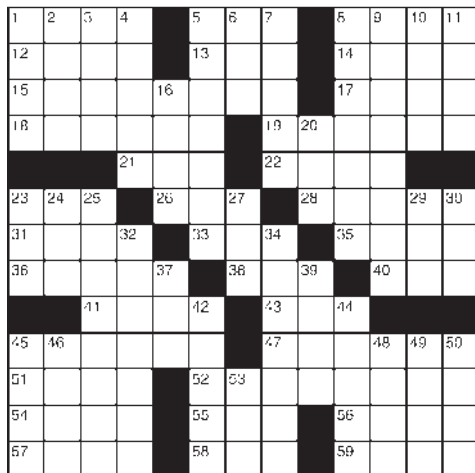
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A hungry feelin', came o'er me stealin' ... and the old triangle, went jingle, jangle, all along the banks of the Royal Canal. - BRENDAN BEHAN  
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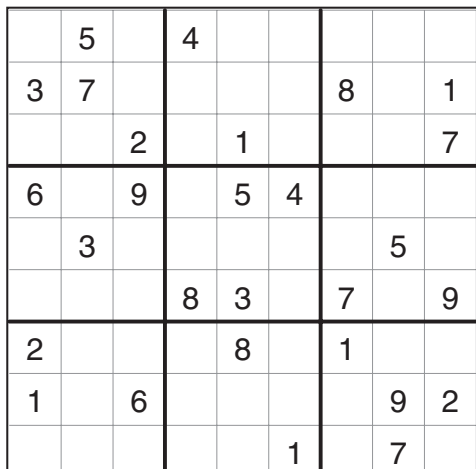


## Take Five



### Sudoku

**HOW TO PLAY:** Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone – one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.



### Crossword across

- 1 "Cheers" order
- 5 Cleo's slayer
- 8 Look lecherously
- 12 Needle case
- 13 Prohibit
- 14 Incursion
- 15 Grotesque carving
- 17 Raised
- 18 Sailing vessels
- 19 Like wet roads
- 21 Sleep phenom
- 22 Location
- 23 Gasoline stat
- 26 Nev. neighbor
- 28 Jeans material
- 31 Support group?
- 33 Romanian money
- 35 FDR is on it
- 36 Heart line?
- 38 Switch settings
- 40 Likely
- 41 Karma
- 43 Collection
- 45 Accommodated
- 47 Squat
- 51 Duel tool
- 52 Chickpea
- 54 Gangster's gal pal
- 55 Time of your life?
- 56 Celebrity
- 57 Race place
- 58 Tier
- 59 Rent

### Crossword down

- 1 Pleads
- 2 And others (Lat.)
- 3 Franc replacement
- 4 Severity
- 5 Immeasurably deep
- 6 "Erie Canal" mule
- 7 Iron
- 8 Traveled around the world?
- 9 Corsage flower
- 10 Told tales
- 11 Whirlpool
- 16 Oil cartel
- 20 Tease
- 23 Biz deg.
- 24 Yes voter
- 25 Jon Arbuckle's cat
- 27 Zodiac sign
- 29 Demonic tyke
- 30 Bumped into
- 32 Grand
- 34 Remove a lightbulb
- 37 Packed away
- 39 Belgrade dweller
- 42 Candice's dad
- 44 Raise a glass to
- 45 Half (Pref.)
- 46 "Once — a time ..."
- 48 "Do — others ..."
- 49 Despot
- 50 Gridlock noisemaker
- 53 In olden days

### PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:



### Find today's answers + play more games at metronews.ca

<b>SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:</b>	17-21 min .....Smart
Under 13 min .....Genius	21-25 min .....Not bad
13-17 min .....Scholar	25+ min .....Keep practising

### Recipe of the day



### Grilled swordfish steaks with tomato and pepper salsa

#### INGREDIENTS:

- 4 swordfish or other fish steaks, about 5 1/2 oz (150 g) each
- 4 tbsp (60 mL) extra virgin olive oil
- Juice of 1 small orange
- 1 garlic clove, crushed
- Pepper to taste
- 1 orange, cut into wedges, to garnish

#### TOMATO AND PEPPER SALSA:

- 7 oz (200 g) Italian tomatoes, diced
- 1/2 red pepper, seeded and diced
- 1/2 red onion, finely chopped
- Juice of 1 small orange
- 1/2 oz (15 g) fresh basil, chopped
- 1 tbsp (15 mL) balsamic vinegar
- 1 teaspoon caster (superfine) sugar
- Pepper to taste

#### METHOD:

1. Place fish steaks in a shallow non-metallic dish. Mix together

olive oil, orange juice, garlic and pepper to season, and spoon over the fish steaks.

2. For salsa, combine tomatoes, red pepper, onion, orange juice, basil, balsamic vinegar and sugar, and season with pepper. Spoon into serving bowl.
3. Heat a lightly oiled, ridged cast-iron grill pan or a heavy-based frying pan over a high heat. Place the fish steaks in the grill pan or in the frying pan and cook for 2-3 minutes per side, basting from time to time with oil mixture, until fish flakes easily.
4. Place fish steaks on individual warm serving plates and grind over some additional black pepper. Garnish fish with wedges of orange and serve with salsa.

#### SERVES 4



## Horoscopes

**ARIES**  
**MARCH 21-APRIL 20**  
Rely on your wits when someone slows progress. Change anything that interferes with sincerity. Being dignified wins, when someone is shouting.

**LIBRA**  
**SEPT 23-OCT 23**  
Be witty in a scintillating situation. Suspicion falls on a fool and his money. Impressive moves are made by a mature woman.

**TAURUS**  
**APRIL 21-MAY 21**  
Thoughtless actions will cause headaches. A brave soul gives up in frustration. Don't argue about money with a fool.

**SCORPIO**  
**OCT 24-NOV 22**  
A foolish schemer is caught at last. Mischief-makers will run rampant. A friendly woman is accused of having a secret agenda.

**GEMINI**  
**MAY 22-JUNE 21**  
You'll get an unexpected offer from a long-lost friend. Distinguish yourself by contacting an elder. A woman is more helpful than a bad boy.

**SAGITTARIUS**  
**NOV 23-DEC 21**  
Try to understand why you flipped your lid. An agreement in principle comes easily. Make up your mind without interference.

**CANCER**  
**JUNE 22-JULY 22**  
Secret messages are the solution to a mix-up. Don't take chances to end a bothersome situation. A desperado tempts someone with bad taste.

**CAPRICORN**  
**DEC 22-JAN 20**  
Have pity on the bewildered. A formidable friend modifies unrealistic expectations. A warrior wants to find the truth.

**LEO**  
**JULY 23-AUG 23**  
Keep away from a scared brunette. A friend is fired up about having a good time. Don't let pride provoke a misunderstanding.

**AQUARIUS**  
**JAN 21-FEB 18**  
Avoid making whimsical remarks. A wicked scheme will cause laughter. Happiness grows when difficulties cause unexpected giggles.

**VIRGO**  
**AUG 24-SEPT 22**  
Someone who admires you will speak up. A worker is incompetent. Speculation will make you flustered.

**PISCES**  
**FEB 19-MARCH 20**  
People may not be ready for a drastic change. Searching reveals a good alternative to gloom. Visit with a musical friend.

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## This day in history

OCT. 15, 1863: American Civil War: The CSS H. L. Hunley, the first submarine to sink a ship, sinks during a test, killing its inventor, Horace L. Hunley.

OCT. 15, 1951: Television sitcom I Love Lucy premieres.

OCT. 15, 1951: Mexican chemist Luis E. Miramontes synthesized the first oral contraceptive.

OCT. 15, 1981: Professional cheerleader Krazy George Henderson leads what is thought to be the first audience wave in Oakland, California.

OCT. 15, 1989: Wayne Gretzky becomes the all-time leading points scorer in the NHL.

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## WORDY GURDY®

BY TRICKY RICKY KANE

Every answer is a rhyming pair of words like CAT and BAT (14-15) and they will fit in the letter squares. The numbers after the definition tell you how many syllables in each word.

1. Smeek is baseball catcher's glove (1)
2. Confront an anti-slugger spray (1)
3. Handliner Miller's writing tools (1)
4. "Right away, Long Ranger friend" (2)
5. Bigger spending credit card user (2)
6. Actress Mia's archery equipment (2)
7. First rate game with brooms on ice (2)

ANSWERS: 1. CATCHER'S GLOVE 2. SLUGGER SPRAY 3. HANDLINER 4. LONG RANGER 5. CREDIT CARD 6. ARCHERY EQUIPMENT 7. BROOM ON ICE

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